

STEAD'S

PUBLISHED
FORTNIGHTLY

SEPT. 7TH

1918

7^D



MEREDITH ATKINSON
On AFTER WAR PROBLEMS

I.—A League of Nations.

WHAT AMERICA HAS DONE
AND IS DOING TO WIN

THE WAR



"— and just think,
Mother, how much
we saved!"

"It's the prettiest dress
I ever had. Then there
are your two blouses and
skirt, and the frocks for
Bess and May. And the
materials for everything
we've made cost less
than one of those dresses
I had last spring."

This is an example of the savings in just
one home out of hundreds in city, town and
country now that women are finding the easy,
delightful way to clothes-economy through the
simple and practical Simplex System.

Learn Dressmaking

In Your Own Home

A Grand FREE Offer

We know that you are going to say that you
could never learn dressmaking at home. But
that is only because you do not know about
the wonderfully simple Simplex System of teach-
ing high-class Dressmaking by correspondence.
It is different and far superior to all other
methods. The lessons are so simple and so fasci-
nating that you need not know anything at all
about sewing to be successful.

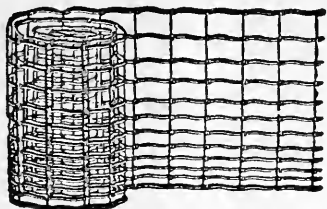
Everything is so easy and yet so practical that
you can start making your own clothes at once.
You can quickly learn how to make your own
dresses, blouses, costumes and underclothes—and
charming, dainty little garments of every kind
for the children. Yes, you can learn every phase
of fashionable dressmaking—you are taught
quickly how to design, plan, cut, fit, make, drape
and trim all kinds of clothes—so that should you
desire or should necessity require it, you can
secure a good paying position or open an exclu-
sive and profitable business of your own.

And the delightful part of it all is that you do
not have to sacrifice a minute from your usual
duties or pleasures, for by the Simplex System
you learn right in the comfort and quiet of your
own home, the natural place to learn, and you

apply your newly acquired skill immediately to
your everyday sewing needs.

Thousands of women are now profiting by our
wonderfully easy and practical home-study
method of teaching. They include city women
and country women, home women, business
women, girls at school and college, and girls em-
ployed at home and in shops and offices. Every
mail brings us voluntary letters of gratitude,
telling of their success, of the charming dresses
they have made, of the money they have saved.
Some have accepted good positions, and others
have gone into business for themselves.

We ask you to sit down NOW and send us YOUR
name and address. Be sure to mention "Stead's
Review," and state whether Mrs. or Miss. We will
understand and will send you all particulars of
the marvellous Simplex System by return post.
Do this immediately as otherwise you may leave
it till too late and lose the chance of a life-
time. Send no money with your application for
full particulars; simply send your name and ad-
dress to-day. ASSOCIATED SCHOOL OF DRESS-
MAKING, 2 Record Chambers, Castlereagh Street,
Sydney.



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MILES
OF**

Cyclone

SPRING COIL FENCE

has been bought by the Closer
Settlement Board of Victoria in
preference to any other kind.

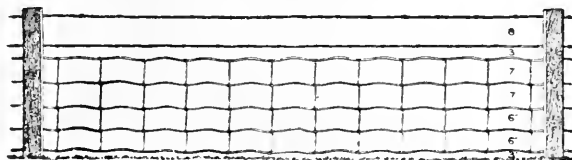


Fig. 8—Special Cyclone Spring Coil Sheep Fence.

A purchase in one order of such magnitude by a responsible body like the Closer Settlement Board is a convincing proof of the superiority of Cyclone Spring Coil Fencing.

Spring Coil Fencing is sent out in rolls of five chains, and is Hog, Dog and Lamb proof. This fencing is woven in our factory, and is easily handled and strung.

COUPON

(Cut this out and post to-day)

Cyclone Proprietary Ltd., 459-461 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Please send me a copy of the Cyclone Catalogue, post free.

Name.....

Address.....

S.R. 632

New South Wales Readers please address to 209 Bulwarra Road, Pyrmont, Sydney.

South Australian Readers to 123-125 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

"The Chief Has No Time to Spare Licking You Into Shape"

"If you are of use to him he will use you; if not———"

It's up to you to see that he CAN use you; to fit yourself to render intelligent worth-while service. If you don't do that, don't develop a grouch when the chief asks you to make room for somebody else who is better qualified.

Business calls for special training. The education that is sufficient for ordinary purposes is lamentably insufficient to fit one for the battle of business life.

Bradshaw's Full Business Course is the most complete, comprehensive, and thorough business education any boy or girl can secure prior to entering business.

Bradshaw Graduates never apply for positions like this—recently advertised:—

"Junior Clerk (male) wanted: salary 15/- per week to commence. Address, own handwriting, stating experience, to Trustee Company, 'Argus.'"

NOTE:—

1. Experience was called for.
2. Salary was only 15/- week.

Bradshaw Graduates—Boys and Girls in their teens—on completing the 8 months' FULL BUSINESS COURSE, have no difficulty in securing positions at commencing salaries of 20/-, 25/-, 30/-, or even more, per week.

They're worth it—and business men recognise that fact.

PARENTS.—Don't let your boy or girl start, untrained, at a low salary. See that they are Bradshaw trained—enter business competent to serve, and receiving the pay of competents. The Full Course can be taken by class tuition at the College, by postal tuition in the student's own home, or by a combination of these two methods.

Bradshaw's Promotion Courses—Evening or Postal—enable students to develop their earning capacities to the highest degree. They are the best investment of time and money any man or woman can possibly make.

Prospectus "C29" and Pamphlet "HS29" post free on request.

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BUSINESS COLLEGE
—PTY. LTD.—

BRADSHAW'S CHAMBERS
238 FLINDERS STREET
MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

25,000 OFFICERS and MEN

83 Generals and Admirals

Greater Pelman Progress

In a recent issue of "Stead's Review," we advised readers that at that time forty-six generals, nine admirals, and fifteen thousand officers and men were going through the Pelman Course of Training. The number has now increased to a remarkable extent.

Mr. Edward Anton, writing in "The English Review," says:—"Nearly twenty-five thousand officers and men of both services are now Pelmanists, the list being headed by eighty-three admirals and generals. The mere fact that such a large number are studying the Course, in spite of such drawbacks as scanty leisure and adverse environment, speaks volumes for the estimation in which "Pelmanism" is held by the Services."

In the same article Mr. Anton has something to say about the British Brain:—

THE BRITISH BRAIN.

"The war has, of course, quickened the consciousness of a mental deficiency amongst all classes. As a nation and as individuals we are all 'being put to it.' More, much more, is being demanded of us every day of our lives, than prior to 1914. This probably accounts for the quickened interest in the Pelman Course, which affords the means of 'speeding up' to the required standard of efficiency without overstraining the 'human machine,' as Mr. Arnold Bennett so happily terms it. Indeed, a very considerable number of Pelmanists comment upon the astonishing ease with which they are now able to cope with much heavier work and graver responsibilities than they had previously believed themselves capable of undertaking."

The Pelman School is doing good and useful work in England, and we are doing equally good and useful work here. We want you to know just what this work is, and we shall be glad to send you, post free, a copy of "Mind and Memory Training." Write now to The Secretary, The Pelman School, 23 Gloucester House, 396 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

RETURNED MEN who enrolled for the Pelman Course in England, and did not complete there, are requested to get into communication with us as soon as possible after their return. We are happy to help them with their work. Soldiers leaving Australia or New Zealand before completing the Course can have similar assistance in London.

TAUGHT BY POST.

The PELMAN SYSTEM is Taught by Post in twelve interesting lessons. It takes from ten to twelve weeks to complete the course. Benefit begins with the first lesson, and the interest and attention are maintained throughout. Write now to the Secretary, THE PELMAN SCHOOL, 23 Gloucester House, 396 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

CUT THIS OUT AND POST TO-DAY.

To the Secretary,
PELMAN SCHOOL OF MIND AND MEMORY,
23 Gloucester House, 396 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.
Please send your free book, "Mind and Memory Training."

Name

Address

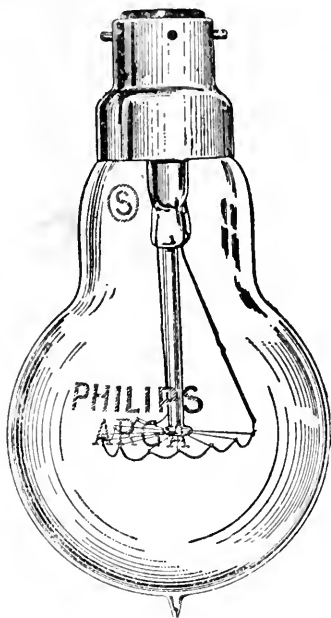
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50 to 2000 c.p.

The "Arga" Lamp, being gas-filled, gives a light of unequalled steadiness. Already it has been adopted by a large number of municipalities, mining and engineering companies, to whom efficient lighting is an absolute necessity. The distribution is even, and the illumination perfect.

**You must
have the
"Arga" Lamp**



Soft White Light

The 50 c.p. "Arga" gas-filled Lamp is made specially for general household use. It is highly efficient, and householders will do well to install this lamp, which is the most economical on the market, and the last word in electric lamps.

**Efficient
and
Economical**

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If you want ELECTRIC COOKERS, ELECTRIC IRONS, ELECTRIC KETTLES, install the Silvertown System for Home Comfort and Time-saving.

For Anything Electrical Come to Silvertown

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ADELAIDE.

Harrison Bros. & Co.,
LAUNCESTON.

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DO YOU like sketching people and scenery, and putting your thoughts upon paper? **Would you like to turn your talent for drawing into money?**

Sketching the people and things about you is a fascinating and immensely profitable hobby, and opens up a pleasant and profitable profession to anyone with a talent for drawing. Black and white artists make big incomes and many in Australia make from £1000 to £2000 a year drawing for newspapers and advertisers. The profession is full of opportunities for anyone who has a liking for drawing and who is properly trained. You can study black and white drawing in your own home by our system of correspondence instruction under the individual tuition of a front rank artist.

Copy this Sketch

and send it to us for

Free Criticism

and let us judge for you whether you have a talent for this class of work. This criticism is entirely **FREE** and places you under no obligation whatever. Besides teaching you money-making art, we also **help you to sell your sketches** and show you how and where to dispose of every kind of sketch you execute to the best advantage.

FREE ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET - - Let us also send you a copy of our **FREE Illustrated Booklet**, "Sketching for Pleasure and Profit," a unique production of inestimable value to anyone with a talent for drawing.

THE AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF SKETCHING
160 EXCHANGE CORNER, Pitt and Bridge Sts., SYDNEY

How Much Have You Forgotten of All the Things You've Ever Learned?

The real reason for memory failure—which is often evident even in really brilliant people—is that the memory is not trained, and thereby so classified and strengthened, that anything once learned can never be forgotten. It is to the man or woman whose mind and memory are thoroughly trained and systematised that success comes in life, for such a man or woman can be always implicitly relied upon where memory is vital. Think what it would mean to YOU, commercially and socially, if YOU could remember on the instant ANY point of ANY subject you had ever learned!!! And YOU can, with but moderate effort, attain this proficiency of mental power by studying the

Linnean Memory System

which is a course of memory training, compiled from the cream of the world's memory systems, in the form of a series of thorough and easily digested lessons.

The Linnean System classifies the "jumbled confusion of knowledge" contained in your mind, and makes every part easily accessible, enabling you to remember, on the instant, any figure, fact, formula, date, quotation, with unvarying accuracy, under the most severe of test conditions.

It strengthens mind and memory, giving you CONFIDENCE in your own ability, and consequently increasing the latter to a remarkable degree. The Linnean System is an invaluable aid to the student, and the man or woman in any walk of life. It is taught in your own home in your spare time, at trifling cost. It is easy to follow, and can be beneficially applied, even after study of the first lesson.

Fill in your name and address below, tear out, and post to R. BROWN, 211 Swanston Street, Melbourne, and by return we will send you, quite free, our valuable booklet, "Memory Training," which fully explains the Linnean System, and what it has done for others.

Name

Address



**10,000
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Korumburra, East Gippsland, Vic.
Mrs. Mary K. Chapman.

Dear Madam,—
I wish to tender my sincere and grateful thanks for the complete restoration of my hair by the use of your "Genuine Specific." My hair is now permanently restored to its natural colour, and its growth has been greatly promoted also. It has produced a marvellous transformation. You may use this testimonial any way you please.
(Signed) J.T.F.

When my great and genuine specific is used—and, remember, you can TEST IT FREE—it sets up a wonderful natural and scientific process. It is not an ordinary dye or stain, and will not stain your scalp, skin, or linen.

GREY HAIR

**MRS. MARY K. CHAPMAN'S
Sure but Harmless Specific**

Which makes it possible to regain 10 to 20 years in your appearance—a simple, certain method which can be used at home with wonderful success, and restores your hair to its natural tint, lustre and appearance.

Don't wait until you are told by your employer that you are looking too old at 40 to hold your position, but commence at once with my world-renowned specific. It will darken your hair gradually, and naturally. There is no suddenness, and the darkening is not patchy, as is mostly the case with ordinary dyes or stains. My great specific has a thoroughly sound reputation, and will surprise and gratify you.

If you are troubled with any of these signs:—

1. Patchy Greyness
2. Temple Greyness
3. Greyness over Ears
4. White Hair
5. Streaky Greyness
6. Recent or Long-standing Greyness

fill in and post the coupon below, and a free trial bottle will be forwarded immediately.

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To MRS. MARY K. CHAPMAN, Suite 38, Falmouth Chambers, 117 Pitt Street, Sydney (just below G.P.O.).

I enclose threepence in stamps for postage on a free sample bottle of your specific, which please send by return post under plain cover.

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Address

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The Australian Tweeds featured illustrate the tremendous strides made in the quality of locally made textures during the last few years, being on a par with the best high-grade woollens.

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These represent a recently arrived consignment, but the order for them was placed by our London house nearly two years ago, when prices were considerably lower than at present.

For textures of similar quality the retail charges prevailing in Melbourne are fully 33 per cent. in advance of our prices, which range from

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Satisfaction is guaranteed as to the quality of the workmanship.

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SUCCESSES

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Since the Accountancy Examinations were first established in Australia and New Zealand, no professional coaches have obtained anything like the successes achieved by Hemingway and Robertson at the recent examinations. The record is absolutely phenomenal, but yet, if properly understood, only to be expected from professional coaches who are specialists in training men to become accountants, and to qualify as such.

Incorporated Institute of Victoria— Intermediate Examination:

First place for Australia—F. M. Gilder.
219 candidates sat for this examination.

Hemingway and Robertson's students obtained first place in Tasmania, West Australia, South Australia and New South Wales.

Incorporated Institute of Victoria— Final Examination:

Hemingway and Robertson presented 70 students, of whom 68 obtained passes.

Federal Institute of Accountants:

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1st Full Exam., H. P. Glass, Vic.
2nd Full Exam., J. R. Paterson, Vic.

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2nd Book-keeping, C. J. Handley, Thurs. Is.
1st Auditing, S. Simmons, Vic.
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1st Insolvency, H. P. Glass, Vic.
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2nd Auditing, D. Moriarty, N.S.W.
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For these two Institutes, H. and R. presented 342 students, and 317 secured passes, wholly or in part. The reason for the overwhelming popularity of their coaching methods is obvious.

Completely detailed lists of successful candidates sent to all enquirers.

Ask at the same time for a free copy of "Guide to Accountancy." Explains why you should qualify, and what you stand to gain by so doing.

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MINUTE TO STROP MOMENT TO CLEAN

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A moment's consideration will show you that no field of business has such wonderful opportunities as the motor industry. Tens of thousands of cars are already running in Australasia—the day is coming when almost everyone will own a motor. Then there's the opening for the tractor—and the certain development of the aeroplane to commerce. Think of the thousands of experts who will be required—of the chauffeurs and head mechanics who will be wanted—of the salesmen with practical knowledge of motor operation who will be needed. And this big market means that big money will be offered to the men who can fill the big jobs. Fit yourself to-day for the opportunities of to-morrow! Learn to drive a car—to start a repair shop and garage—learn the inmost details of car and engine construction. There's no need to give up your present job.

DYKE'S CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL OF MOTORING

teaches you the motor business by mail—and does so by working models. These wonderful models give you actual practice—you see the actual operations—and grasp the principles far more easily than you would from the car itself. No intricate diagrams—practical working models that show each operation. Thousands testify to the practical nature of the Dyke method, including Lord Montague of Beaulieu, England's greatest motor authority. The Chief Motorman of the Dunedin (N.Z.) Fire Brigade writes:—"It is undoubtedly the best system in the world to-day." Specially valuable to private car owners—will save you pounds in garage bills. Absolutely Free—Mr. Dyke's 32-page Booklet, outlining the course. Write for it. Fill in this Coupon and post it to-day.

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Australasian Representatives: JAMES RODGER AND CO., 159C Manchester Street,
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("M")

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Yet Issued on the War

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OVER 3000 FACTS ABOUT THE WAR.

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Tells you about the Armies of the Belligerents. The Navies. Neutrality. Contraband. Spies. Colonies. Internal Conditions of Powers at War. Rulers of Europe. Prisoners of War. Modern and Ancient Weapons. World's Production. The Balkans and Their People. Asia Minor. Russian Railways. Airships. Submarines. Torpedoes. Neutrals. Trade. The Russians. The Turks. Etc., etc., etc. Everything you can think of.

By using this Coupon you can secure
this 7/6 book for 5/-

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Please send me by return copy of STEAD'S
WAR FACTS, for which I enclose 5/-.

Name.....

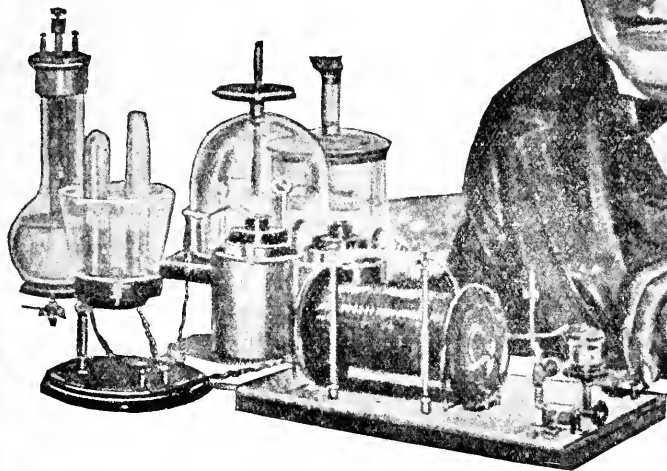
Address.....

A FEW OF THE QUESTIONS ANSWERED:—

Has Britain interests in Persia?
Are cotton mills developing greatly in Japan?
Where does Great Britain get most of her copper from?
Does Australia lead the world in wool production?
Do women receive the same wages in munition factories as men?
When was the first Conscription Bill passed in the House of Commons?
What is the liquid fire used by the Germans?
Are the Allies using it too?
What is a lacrimal shell?
Who invented the first submarine?
What was the value of the cargo of the "Deutschland"?
What is the difference between an airship and an aeroplane?
What is a Diesel engine?
What is International law?
When was the Paris Conference held?
What is the Rhine Navigation Treaty?
How many races are taking part in the present war?
What are the religions of the Entente Powers?
What country has the largest birth rate?
What is the population of Russia?
How many men are there in a division?
What were the naval strengths of the Great Powers in 1914.
What ships were lost in the Jutland battle?
How many miles is it from Berlin to Baghdad?
How many cables are there across the Atlantic?
What possessions had Germany in the Pacific?
How long is the Panama Canal?
What is a Czech?
What is the so-called French Foreign Legion?
Are there many Jews in Palestine?
How old is Lloyd George?
Is Lord Northcliffe an Irishman?
What is a glaais?
How much gold is there in a sovereign?
What does "Dora" mean?
What is tolite?
Etc., etc.

The Tireless Energy of Edison's Master Brain

is not merely the birthright of genius. It is in great part the product of perfect health. Edison puts as much thought into what he eats as he does into the composition of a new carbon filament. He regulates his living according to the accepted rules of health. He knows how to live.



Take a Leaf From Edison's Book

Live properly. On your health depends to great degree your enjoyment of life. On it rests largely your capacity for full achievement—the ability to utilise to the full your talents, gifts, and experience.

No man does himself justice who is hampered by imperfect health, and most men fail to attain to more than 60 per cent. of the physical and mental well-being which is their birthright.

Yet health after all is rather a simple matter. It is largely a question of knowing the outstanding laws, and of applying them to your living.

Under the auspices of the now world-famed Life Extension Institute of New York—an organisation which claims the services of the greatest American physicians, hygienists, and health authorities, there has now been prepared a very complete

Course of Health and Culture

It deals with all fundamental matters of health. It treats of diet, of what to eat and not to eat. It instructs on the care of the body, from the soles of the feet to scalp of the head. It deals comprehensively with general and personal hygiene. Every possible aspect of the health question is completely discussed. You learn how to win perfect health and how to keep it.

May we tell you more about this remarkable course? Use the Coupon.

**Health and Study Club,
Institute of Efficiency**

100 FLINDERS STREET, MELBOURNE

To the HEALTH AND STUDY CLUB,
INSTITUTE OF EFFICIENCY.

100 Flinders Street, Melbourne,

Please send me, without any obligation to enrol, full particulars of the Life Extension Institute's Course in Health and Physical Culture.

NAME

ADDRESS.....

S.R.
7/9/18.

PATON

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Overland

TRADE MARK REG.

£395

Choose An Overland

The great Overland range of models includes a car for practically every need of motoring.

And the popularity of Overland cars is due to five distinct advantages—*appearance, performance, comfort, service and price.*

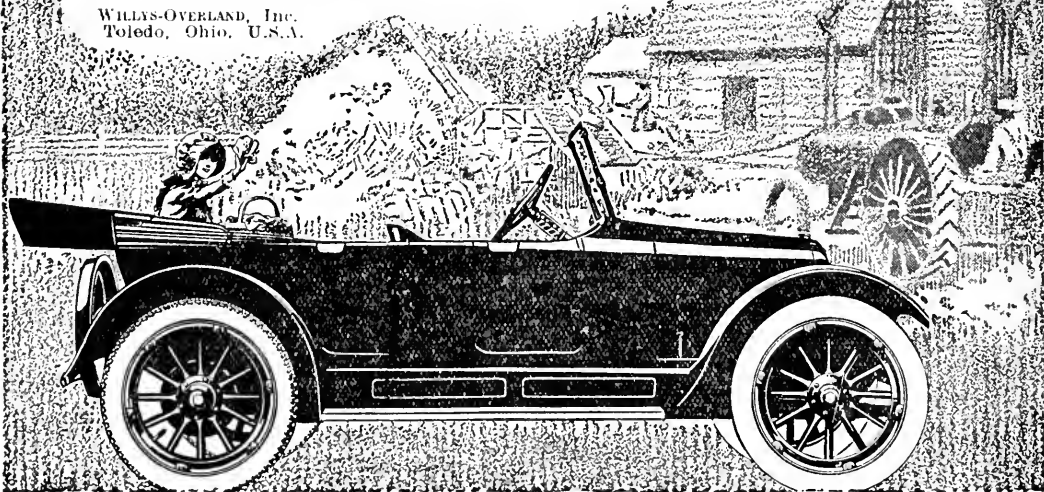
Here we show the famous Model 90, a car light enough to be very "mobile," yet heavy enough to hold the road easily; powerful, easy to drive and easy to ride in.

Investigate this Model 90 at your early convenience. Then, with hundreds of thousands of other people, you will choose an Overland.

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A "Swan" nib will write with invariable smoothness for many years. You cannot get such a splendid nib in any other pen, nor so simple and efficient a pen as

THE SWAN FOUNTAIN PEN

(Australian Prices)

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with screw-on Cap, may be carried in any position.
From 15- upwards.



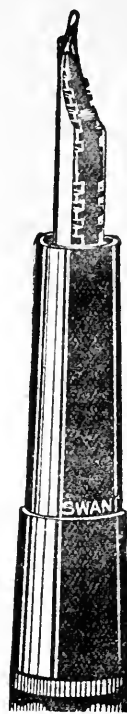
STANDARD PATTERN

with slip-on Cap, to be carried in an upright position.
From 12/6 upwards.

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Be honest : pay what you owe

You are in debt.

It is useless for you to deny it. Every one of us is in debt—to our boys at the front.

Have you ever thought of repaying what you owe them, or even a fraction of it? Surely you have; but perhaps you do not know how.

There is an easy way. Pay your debt to the men by lending to the nation.

Honour your debt: buy Bonds

They will return you 5 per cent.

Any Bank or Post Office will give you full particulars.

Banks will help you to buy, and will charge only 4 per cent. on the overdraft.

Commonwealth Treasury,
September, 1918.

W. A. WATT,
Treasurer.

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1/- 2/6 - 4/6 of all Chemists.

Chairman:
LADY SLOGGETT



The Grand Priory of
The Order of the Hospital of St. John
of Jerusalem, in England.



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Gentlemen, -We are requested by the Commissioners of the St. John Ambulance Association at Havre and elsewhere to supply, for use in the Base Hospitals, 1,000 2/9 bottles of Phosferine, 500 in tablet form and 500 liquid.

They inform us that your remedy is in constant requisition by the Field Hospitals, and from the reports they receive, it is held in high esteem as a Tonic possessing valuable recuperative qualities.

I shall be obliged by your immediate attention, as it is necessary to get the Phosferine forwarded to France as quickly as possible.

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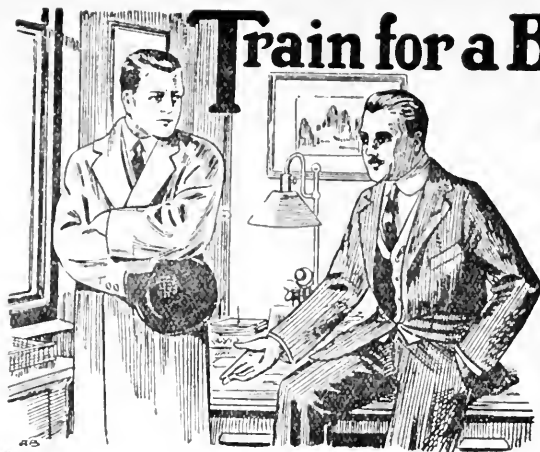
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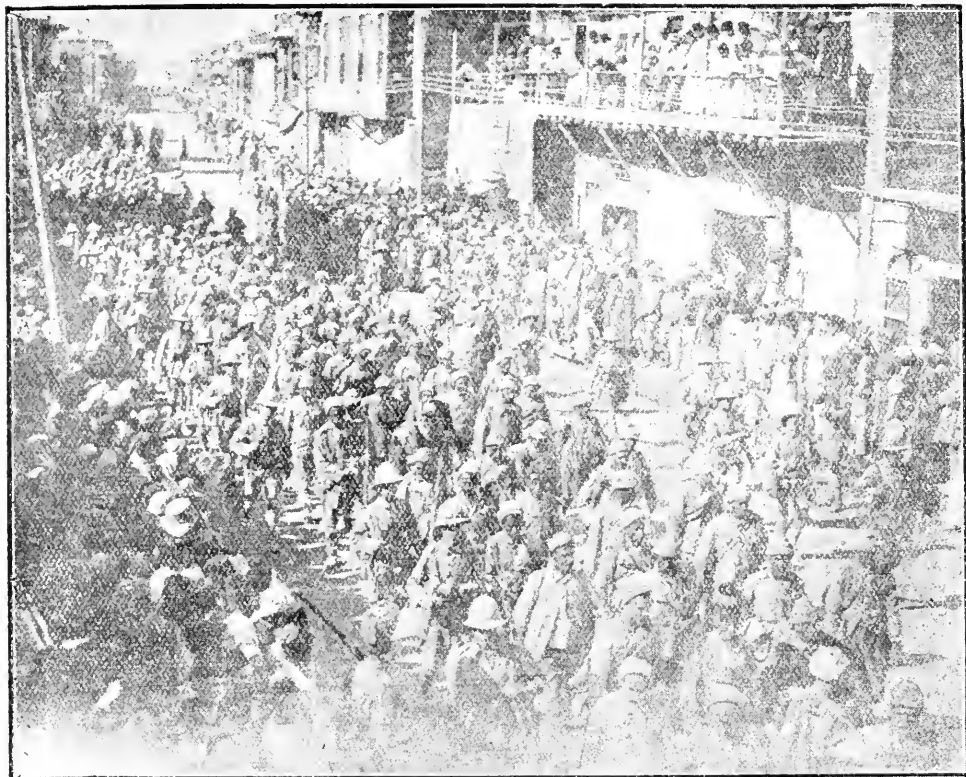
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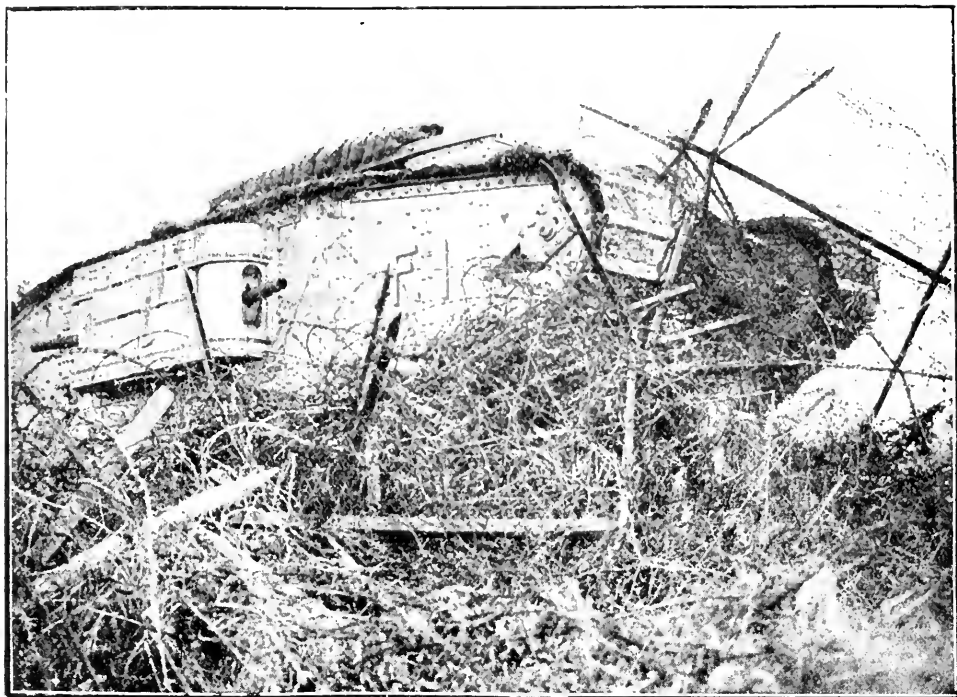
Turkish prisoners passing through the city's main thoroughfare on the way to the prison camp.

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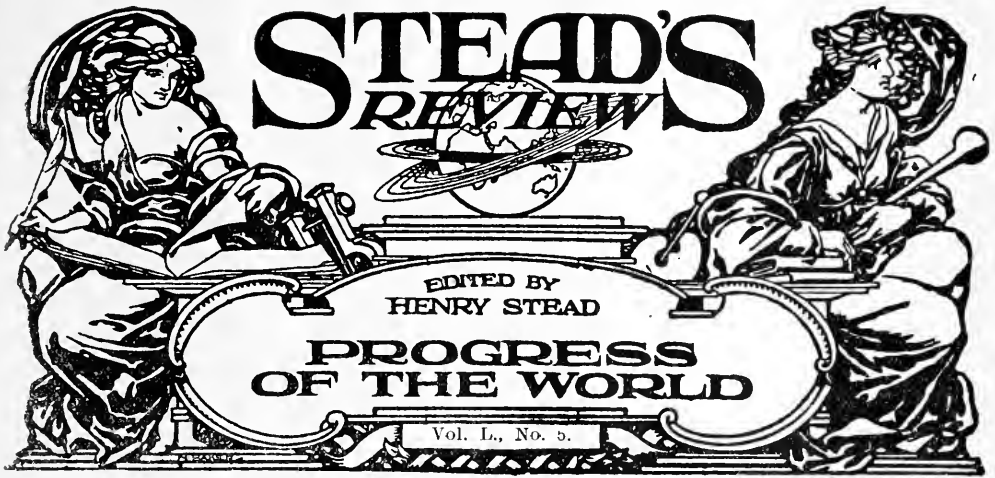
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THE SORT OF OBSTACLE A TANK SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATES



The system of defences used has been altered in many places on the western front owing to the new German method of attack. Gallant fighters are here shown dug into pits in the front line, where they are well supported by a screen of machine guns.



AUGUST 31, 1918.

German Retreat Continued.

Fine as have been the achievements of the Allied troops in Picardy, the promise of German rout and disaster which a fortnight ago appeared possible of realisation has not been fulfilled. As I pointed out, Albert was the key to the situation, and the enemy held the place long enough to prevent rapid Allied advance further south to give themselves time to organise methodical retreat from the Picardy battlefield back to the Hindenburg line. The taking of Albert, Chaulnes, Roye and Noyon two weeks ago would have meant disaster to the enemy; but, though Haig's initial rush brought him to the outskirts of the first two, and the French pushed to Roye and through Lassigny, they were then held up and the chance of rolling up the Kaiser's army disappeared. The Germans, by rushing reinforcements to the key positions, were able to stop Allied advance long enough to enable them to withdraw their men from the centre of the Arras-Noyon line. Once this retirement had been begun the key points were abandoned for others further back, and so the slow retreat has gone on during the last fourteen days and more. When Albert and Lassigny fell into Allied hands it became clear that the

enemy did not intend to stand on the 1916 front, would not furiously try to retain what they still possessed of the territory won in their March offensive, but would fall back to the Hindenburg line, a line that is, which they had carefully selected a year and a-half ago as being the best suited for defence each of Bapaume and Peronne.

March, 1917, and August, 1918.

But whilst the enemy forces are retiring thereon, as they retired in March and April, 1917, the retreat is a very different affair this year to what it was last. All the same, it is an instructive exercise to read the newspapers of March, 1917, which told of rapid British and French advance in Picardy. From them we learn that after a series of brilliant victories on the Ancre the British drove the enemy back on Bapaume, which place was taken after a furious struggle, in which the Australians took a leading part. Day after day communiques told of quick advance, of cavalry actions, of the repelling of fierce German counter-attacks, and the overwhelming of rear guards. On March 17th the fall of Bapaume was declared to mark the brilliant end of one of the most decisive battles of the war. At that time French

critics were constantly insisting that the retreat was not a voluntary one, but was being compelled by Allied pressure, the enemy having to vacate position after position owing to the superior force of our men and guns. The whole affair is looked at in very different light now. It is, of course, everywhere admitted that although the need for the abandonment of Peronne and Bapaume may have been forced by the success of Haig's nibbling tactics on the Somme, the retirement to the Hindenburg line was not compelled by Allied pressure, but was carried out systematically and according to plan, with the loss of few men and hardly any guns. As a military feat, merely, it has won praise from military critics in Britain and America, and it undoubtedly prevented the launching of an Allied offensive in the spring of 1917, forced us to take up positions before formidable and carefully prepared enemy defences on ground with which our opponents were thoroughly familiar. The retirement of 1917 was in sum a tactical victory for the Germans, although of course no defeat of the Allies, who won back territory at small cost.

A Scramble to Safety.

We have again a German retirement, but a very different one from that of last year. In 1917 every enemy move had been carefully planned, the time was selected, the posts to be held by rear-guards had been chosen in the best possible positions. Heavy guns, ammunition dumps, supplies of all sorts had been removed at leisure. Every last item connected with the withdrawal of the forces had been thought of and arranged for. In consequence the retirement was carried out with almost clockwork precision and a minimum of loss. On this occasion the retreat is a forced one. The enemy have had to fight furiously to prevent Allied forces overrunning their retreating troops, have had to battle strenuously for time to get guns and stores and men away. Thus whilst in 1917 the prisoners could be numbered in hundreds, now they already total tens of thousands; whilst but few guns were captured last year, over a thousand have been taken this. The Allied soldiers are on the heels of the retreating Germans all the time. In March, 1917, the withdrawing enemy were rarely pressed. Owing to bad weather and hostile obstructions for much of the time, our advance guards were actually out of touch with the rear-guards of the foe. Not

only have the Germans to retreat now without preparation, but they have to meet more formidable weapons than ever before. During the two weeks, and more, which have passed since the advancing Allies encountered increasing German resistance, enemy High Command has been able to organise the retreat, but not as it was organised in 1917. The retiring forces are greatly hampered, and there is desperate need for strong rear-guards. No doubt ammunition dumps and stores are being rapidly got away, but whilst this was being done, rear-guards suffered heavily, thousands of prisoners were taken and hundreds of guns lost.

The Tanks Again.

The tank, which has made possible the penetration of powerful barbed-wire protected trenches, has been immensely perfected. Not only is it a more formidable machine itself, but it is far better used than at first. The earlier elephantine weapons have been followed by smaller affairs, speedier, more mobile altogether. These "whippets," as they are called, are largely responsible for the heavy captures of Germans, for they have enabled our men to successfully surround and stamp out the machine-gun posts which play so great a part in rear-guard actions. Not only have groups of enemy soldiers been captured in this way, but the whole task of getting any troops away at all must have been greatly increased by hurrying tanks and the active participation of aeroplanes in the ground fighting. That recently these machines have played a larger part in close range combat is clear. By dropping bombs on roads and railways and bridges, they can seriously interfere with troop movements, and by using their machine-guns in rear of the enemy front, they work notable mischief. The cables are plain enough to read. They do not tell of furious fighting on a strong enemy-defended front, but of desperate German stands at certain points which must be held long enough to allow of the hampered withdrawal of troops in the rear. Directly this retirement has been effected these points, no longer important, fall into our hands. It says much for the vigour of Allied attack that when these places are occupied their garrisons are not infrequently captured as well. Already Albert, Bray, Chaulnes, Roye, Las-signy, Noyon and Bapaume have been won back. In the immediate future we may expect to hear of the occupation of Guis-

card, Nesle, Ham, Combles, Blerancourt. Chauny, and other places made famous by this war.

Can the Hindenburg Line be Pierced?

The German retreat once obvious, our next concern is whether the enemy will be able to stand on the Hindenburg line or whether Allied attack will force them to abandon it. Immensely strong as this line has proved itself, with its wire entanglements, hundreds of feet deep, its machine gun emplacements, its tunnels and its trenches, we may be perfectly sure that during the present forced retreat the Germans have been doing their utmost to strengthen it further. That even this formidable barricade was penetrable was demonstrated by General Byng's army when it broke through before Cambrai last year. On that occasion, for the first time, tanks were used instead of high-explosive shells to smash enemy defences. Their stealthy approach in a fog caught the Germans by surprise, and they crashed their irresistible way through barbed-wire entanglements, across trenches and over ramparts. Once the line was broken the infantry poured through and quickly swept right up to Bourlon Wood, the most dominating position of the whole line. They actually took this place, of the very greatest strategical importance, and much other territory. The story of how the enemy in turn caught them napping and recovered Bourlon Wood, recaptured most of the ground overrun by Byng, need not be related here again. The great point was that the Hindenburg line had been broken, and having once been penetrated, may it not again be pierced in the same way? That is a question one must logically answer in the negative. The reason of success was the unheralded attack by a new weapon. That weapon is no longer new, and having once been caught napping the enemy are not likely to be surprised again in the same manner. The Germans have shown themselves immensely fertile in devising means of attack and defence. We know that, in the motor-guns they have found a fairly formidable reply to the tank, even in unfortified country. Whilst a surprise attack could be made again, no doubt, anti-tank guns would not have to be rushed to the spot now; they would be already there in anticipation of just such an onfall. That the morale of the "milked" German regiments is poor has been demonstrated in the Picardy battle; but stand-

ing purely on the defensive, the enemy forces are not likely to break in the hands of their leaders owing to exhaustion, war weariness and bad morale.

New Weapons and New Tactics.

The splendid results which followed the unexpected use of a new offensive weapon, and new assault tactics, was demonstrated by Byng, and it is perfectly possible that still different tactics and another novel weapon might achieve equal or better results. The Germans in their two great offensives this year won through mainly by using gas in a new way. Instead of liberating it in clouds for the wind to drive down on the opposing forces, they conveyed it in multitudes of shells to the exact spots where they wanted it to be. It required an unthinkable number of shells to transport the gas in this way, but this new method of attack achieved its object. The subsequent follow-up of the Germans disclosed exceptionally good staff work but no novel feature. When the enemy get back again to the Hindenburg line it is unlikely that the Allies will immediately try to break through. When they do make the attempt they will have to use some new method in attack. It may be a combination of gas shells and tanks, or more formidable moving forts than any yet used in the field, but that some novel feature will have to be introduced if we would break through seems pretty clear.

Victories and Victories.

A comparison between the operations in Picardy during March, April and May, 1917, with those now taking place, is timely and profitable. As already pointed out, the papers eighteen months ago constrained thereto by the daily cables received, insisted for a long time that we were *driving* the enemy headlong backwards and inflicting heavy losses on them as they went. As each town and village fell its capture was hailed as a notable victory, and yet everyone now admits that there was little attempt made by the Germans to prevent our taking these places once their retention ceased to be necessary to cover their ordered retreat. At that time readers will perhaps remember I asserted that what we were witnessing was a retirement, not a debacle; that we were following an enemy who were going steadily back in order to reach a carefully prepared line which had presumably been made ready in their rear. I do not suggest that the pre-

sent retreat has method in it as the former had. It is, of course, compelled; but nevertheless it is now an ordered withdrawal, and once our initial advance failed to develop rapidly and convert the first enemy defeat into a debacle, it is hardly correct to regard the capture of Bapaume, Chaubnes, Roye and Noyon as great victories. Undoubtedly the enemy will endeavour to make our advance as costly as possible, will try to delay it in every conceivable way so that by the time our forces encounter the powerful defences of the Hindenburg line the season will have become so late that a formidable offensive against it cannot be made until the spring.

The Crucial Point.

As the possibility of breaking through the Hindenburg system of defences is now the chief question, interest naturally centres on the northern part of the present battlefield, where, south-east and north of Arras, our troops are already pressing against it. In their drive early this year the Germans advanced their front slightly toward Arras. The gains they made on that occasion they have now lost, and reports tell of fierce fighting at Oppy, north-east of Arras, and at Bullecourt. The former is just behind the old German front, which ran through the centre of the latter, though in the fighting last summer the enemy salient just north of Croiselles was pinched out and Bullecourt remained in our hands until March last. In 1917 there was also a struggle for Queant, which, however, we failed to get. It is known that the line from Queant to Lens is powerfully defended, and that other formidable defensive works lie behind it. If we are able to seize Queant and push along the Hiron-delle stream to Inchy—once in our possession—we would be well behind the Hindenburg line, would threaten Bourlon Wood and jeopardise the entire enemy position before Cambrai. Here at present is the point of major interest, and news of the fighting there should be followed much more carefully than that about the taking of towns and villages further south. The enemy are likely to make strenuous efforts to hold Queant.

On the Vesle.

In the Aisne district the Germans continue to stand on the Vesle river, although the Americans are reported to be attacking strongly. In view of the general withdrawal elsewhere, one would imagine that

the halt on the Vesle is only temporary, and is being made to give the enemy time to thoroughly prepare their old line just north of the Aisne. They were ejected from this when the French took the Chemin des Dames, and their defences have presumably been levelled and destroyed. The Allied advance between Soissons and Noyon is not yet sufficient to outflank the enemy on the Vesle. This stream offers the enemy a shorter front than the Aisne, and may quite possibly be held for some time, though the Aisne defences would always be there to fall back on if necessary.

In the Balkans.

Nothing important has occurred on the Italian front, but in Albania there appears to have been some sharp fighting, though the reports are somewhat confusing. The Austrians claim to have re-taken Berat, north-east of Avlona, and although the French communiques do not specifically mention the place, they admit a withdrawal, forced, apparently, by the failure of the Italians to repulse a strong Austrian attack which was successfully resisted by the French troops on their right. As we were told that the Italian capture of Berat threatened the Austrian position at Durazzo, we may assume with some safety that its recapture by the enemy removes that particular danger to their Albanian seaport. The Austrians have certainly been reinforced, and mention is made of one of their best generals in command, he having been transferred from Venetia to take charge. Elsewhere in the Balkans there is little activity, but reports of the doing of the Bulgars in Serbian Macedonia suggest that the racial problem there is being settled by the simple expedient of killing, starving and deporting all the Serb inhabitants. This method was adopted during, and after, the Balkan wars by all the Balkan States, if we may believe the reports of travellers and of the Rockefeller Foundation, which sent a commission to enquire into the matter. I recall a discussion I once had in Sofia with various representatives of Foreign Powers, when, in the frankest way, they declared that the Macedonian question would never be settled until the Turks had killed out all the Serbs and Bulgars and Greeks living there. Each section clamoured for union with their own nationals, and unofficial bands of revolutionaries from Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece helped their own particular folk against the others.

Macedonia Again.

Any happy settlement of this land of intermingled peoples seemed impossible, and when it was partitioned between Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria the victors over the Turks fell out amongst themselves, and, with the help of Roumania, Serbia and Greece wrested a large part of what Bulgaria regarded as Bulgarian-peopled Macedonia from her. The settlement of the annexed territories was proceeding apace on approved Balkan methods—when the Great War broke out. It is not surprising that Bulgaria seized the opportunity of getting back the territory of which Serbia had deprived her, and welcomed the incoming of Roumania, which enabled her to recover the slice of the Dobrudja which Roumania has taken from her from behind when attacked in front by her former Allies—Serbia and Greece. At present the Bulgars appear to be engaged in making certain that when the Macedonian districts are asked to exercise the power of “self-determination” about which we have heard so much, there will be no doubt about there being a unanimous demand for union with Bulgaria. An exceedingly interesting development is suggested as possible in recent cables. The Tsar of Bulgaria, wily old Ferdinand—half French, half Austrian—is reported to be dying, and the Bulgars are said to be on the eve of declaring a republic. If they do a most curious situation might be created. Supposing the new republic were to propose peace with the Allies on condition that the Macedonian districts of South Serbia were allowed to determine their own future, would the Allies accept or would they not? A neutral Bulgaria would be almost as useful to Germany as a belligerent one. Access to Turkey through Roumania and Ukraina is assured, and the Allies could make no attack on Constantinople through neutral territory. It is an interesting point, which will, however, hardly have to be decided by the Allies, for, despite the rumours, there seems little chance of Bulgaria deserting her Allies at present.

In Troubled Russia.

The situation in Russia becomes more incomprehensible every day. The most contradictory cables reach us as to events in Siberia, in Finland, in Ukraina, in Russia proper. The following is quite typical, and gives a good idea of the confusion existing. It runs: “A message from Reuter’s correspondent, dated August 24th,

says that a general advance of all Allied forces began on the Ussuri front, but the troops retired six miles.” That is the sort of message we have to go on in judging what are the trend of events in Russia. A general advance is heralded, which results in a retirement of six miles! No wonder we learn that Allied statesmen are in doubt as to what is actually occurring in Siberia. Irkutsk has been three times reported taken by the Czecho-Slovaks, but still appears to be in the hands of the Bolsheviks. We learn one day that the Anti-Bolsheviks and the Czecho-Slovaks are making rapid headway against the Red Guards, and a couple of days later that, outnumbered, they have been forced to retire and are sending urgent appeals to the Allies to despatch larger forces to their assistance. Sometimes the number of the Bolsheviks soldiers engaged in the fighting in Eastern Siberia is given as 80,000, at others a compact force of 8000, with machine guns, is mentioned as their total strength. And so it goes on from day to day. To get even a faint idea of what the position really is, it is necessary to ignore most of these cables altogether, and judge the situation circumstances must almost certainly create, given certain basic facts. Some things we do know. There is an Allied force in Siberia, another on the Murman coast, another at Archangel, and yet another at Baku. Serious Allied intervention has been decided upon. We also know that liberated war prisoners are roaming the country in bands, and that the Czecho-Slovaks—the general name given to the Slav subjects of the Austrian Empire who have thrown in their lot with the Allies—have collected together until at certain points they have been able to form small armies. Of these, that in Siberia is apparently drawing war material and supplies from Japan, but those in Western Siberia and in Russia proper are necessarily “in the air.” As a counter to these Austro-Slav armies the Germans have organised the Anti-Entente war prisoners—Germans, Austrians, Hungarians—equipped them, and are using them as a nucleus on which to form armies of Russians opposed to Allied intervention.

Bolsheviks and Antis.

We know, further, that German agents have spread throughout Russia, and we may presume that they are actually utilising the resentment of the Bolsheviks against the Allies to further their own ends. Finland, Ukraina, Lithuania and the Baltic

Provinces we know to be German dominated, whilst Poland is altogether in enemy hands. The Russians are divided against themselves, class against class, but the great majority, it would seem, still hold Bolshevik views, nor is that surprising. Peasants and workers form the bulk of Russia's population. By confiscating the land of the great proprietors and parceling it out amongst the peasants or making it communally available the Bolshevik Government won all the land workers to their side. By insisting on huge wages for the workers and giving them a share in the control of factories, the enthusiastic support of the wage-earners was secured. The landowners, the bureaucrats, the monarchists naturally offered strenuous opposition, but being a hopeless minority, they had to submit. Though, by comparison, few in number, these folk are the cream of Russian civilisation. Well educated, cultured, able to put their case with force and dignity before the world. Inevitably, therefore, we must assume that the Anti-Bolsheviks are far more heard from, outside Russia, than the more-or-less dumb and illiterate followers of Lenin and Trotsky. But whilst this naturally gives the impression abroad that Bolshevik influence is on the wane, and that Lenin and his colleagues are tottering to a fall, it were palpably unwise to base our hopes on such reports. They may be correct, and may truly reflect the real situation. On the other hand, common sense would suggest that they express more probably the wishes and hopes of a dispossessed and desperate minority. It is perfectly obvious that both Allies and Germans are fishing in the Russian whirlpool, hoping to receive sufficient Russian support to make them masters of the situation. Neither side contemplates sending to Siberia or Russia an army sufficiently large to conquer the country. The idea is to send forces which will attract the Russian elements opposed to Germany and the *Entente* respectively, and will enable these to overcome all opposition and obtain control of the Government.

A Land of Gigantic Distances.

That this must be the plan of the Allies is quickly seen when we recall the gigantic distances to be traversed and the huge numbers of the Russians. A few figures help us to understand this. The area of Siberia proper is 4,831,882 square miles, just about 2,000,000 square miles larger

than the whole of Australia. South and south-west of Siberia lie the Central Asian Provinces of Russia, which cover an area not quite half as large as that of Australia. Russia proper, excluding Finland, but including the border provinces which have declared themselves independent, covers over 2,000,000 square miles. The total area of the former Empire, here and there, on the fringe of which Allied forces are operating, is 8,764,000 square miles. Into this gigantic country three entire Commonwealths could be squeezed! Naturally so huge a country is one of vast distances. From Vladivostok to Russia proper in a direct line is over 3000 miles. By the railway it is 3900 miles. From Sydney to Perth, in a direct line across our great continent, is 2000 miles. From the Siberian border to Petrograd, by rail, is 1769 miles. We may take it for granted that the Siberian railway would be destroyed before an advancing Allied army, and that the troops would have to march a distance equal to twice the breadth of Australia before reaching Russia proper, or at any rate any vital part of that State.

A Difficult Situation.

Such a march, even through a friendly country, would be a terrific feat. Is it a conceivable one through a hostile one with a 3000-mile-long line of communications to be incessantly guarded? Obviously no army, however large, could hope to achieve such a march successfully. Its leaders must necessarily endeavour to win the population to their side. That done, advance would be possible. Therefore I say that the object of the Allies in Siberia is to support one section of Russians against the other, and to reach Russia with the help of the Russians themselves. If this is the case in Siberia it is far more the case in Russia itself. Siberia is sparsely peopled, but 150,000,000 folk dwell in Russia-in-Europe. Only with the aid of a formidable Russian force could an Allied army from Archangel hope to achieve much in this vast land. What I am endeavouring to show is that the important thing in Russia and Siberia is the support our troops are receiving from the people themselves. Only in so far as they may influence opinion one way or the other are the fights reported in the cables of importance. The actual defeat of a small force of Bolsheviks by the Czecho-Slovaks, or the retirement of the latter are comparatively small matters. Whilst satisfactory progress is re-

ported by Allied commanders in Siberia and Russia, we must not forget that the Germans are active against us. Here as everywhere else they have the advantage of interior lines. They have helped to set up new States, they have had time to get their political "infiltration" methods well started. Undoubtedly we began intervention in Russia gravely handicapped, with much leeway to make up.

A Man With Inside Knowledge.

There are not many people who can write of Russia with inside knowledge of conditions there, but one such is Dr. E. J. Dillon. He lived long in Russia, married a Russian, and has constantly visited the country during the last few years. He was a graduate of a Ukraine University, and was later a professor there. Needless to say he speaks Ukrainian as well as Russian and Polish. In fact, he can converse in every language in Europe, and most in Asia. In a powerful article in *The Fortnightly*, Dr. Dillon pleads strongly for the total disruption of the German and Austrian Empires. Only by breaking them up utterly, says he, can we prevent them from recovering in the East what they may lose in the West. He wrote before Allied intervention was decided upon, and declared that *Entente* policy was rapidly estranging Russian sympathy. "The master fact," he said, "is the inability of any of the Russian border States—except a great Poland—to live without leaning on some self-sufficing neighbouring Power, that is to say, Austria or Germany. If Russia were strong enough one might confer upon her the protectorate of Finland, Courland, etc., but you are for dismembering and weakening her." Dr. Dillon has no illusions as to what the Germans will do. "One may reasonably—and profitably—give the Germans credit for seeing at least as clearly and as far ahead as do the statesmen of the *Entente*. They are even quicker than those at discerning the bearings of each event on the final outcome and at turning it to account or deadening its effects."

What is Happening To-day.

The following paragraph on the situation in Russia shows clearly what is going on:—"Cast another glance at Russia and at the countries of the Near and Middle

East kept heretofore from the fatal embrace of the Teuton. They are all slipping from the loosening grasp of the Allies. And this may be no mere temporary war loss to be made good by barter at the Peace Conference. All the sway and influence which the *Entente* States once wielded there are being transferred to the Central Empires, which are minded to hold them lastingly. Asiatic as well as European Russia is for the moment lost to us, and allies are being sought by Germany throughout the entire continent of Asia. Meanwhile, in lieu of moving we are turning over in our minds the question whether the reintegration or the permanent dismemberment of Russia would be more to her advantage of our own. Germany, on the other hand, is alert and pushing. Having pulled down the Ententophil Russian State by inoculating it with anarchy, she is now building up a Germanophil Russian State by grappling with anarchy and reintroducing order. And the Allies are religiously shielding her from interruption, let, and hindrance, as they shielded Bulgaria in the year 1915. The Germans need time and tranquillity for their work, and the *Entente* Powers are guaranteeing them both. The Russians are sorely in want of a reprieve from the horrors wrought by men turned into beasts. And Germany is according it to them for a consideration. Between the misery connoted by Bolshevism and the order and law to be re-established by Germany, the average man and woman would hardly hesitate. Those Westerners who may feel tempted to find fault with them would do well to realise the condition of the country before passing judgment. The post and telegraph have either ceased to work altogether, or work only now and again at short intervals. In Petrograd there are, it is estimated, 70,000 armed hooligans who do what they like and have nothing to fear from the law. In twelve weeks they broke into 45,683 dwellings, and plundered 26,178 shops. . . . Thus not only has the Russian State lost its border provinces, but it is bereft of its inner cohesion. It is a house divided against itself. The Germans are making the most of its present malleability. . . . In the next phase we may behold Russia linked with the Central Empires, not because she so willed it, but because circumstances forbade any other issue."

The Situation in Finland.

Dr. Dillon is evidently alive to the possibility of German armies being later swollen by Russian recruits. We know, of course, that the couple of million war prisoners taken on the Russian front have saved the industrial situation for Germany, have made it possible for her to use more men as soldiers than anyone before the war deemed possible. Altogether the Central Empires are said to hold over 3,500,000 prisoners of war—Russian, Serbian, Italian, French and British, although some authorities say that more than 3,000,000 Russian prisoners alone are in Germany and Austria. The Germans who began by supporting the extremists in Russia are now undoubtedly working to re-establish law and order, are in touch, therefore, with the same section to which Allied intervention is expected to appeal. The request of the Cossack Provinces for Teutonic recognition and assistance shows quite clearly that the Cossacks, landowners themselves, look to Germany for help. Hitherto we have rather based our hope of Russia resuming hostilities against Germany on the Cossack leaders. It was to the country of the Don Cossacks that Russian officers flocked, and again and again we had reports of Korniloff or some other leader marching on Moscow at the head of a formidable Cossack force. If the Germans have contrived to secure Cossack support it is a serious blow for us. As far as can be ascertained the position in the Border States is as follows:—A formal treaty was concluded between Germany and Finland on March 7th. this year. This, whilst in itself a reasonable enough document, has led to German domination of the new State. By the treaty between Russia and Finland the former handed all its possessions in Finland over to the new State, and also apparently ceded a portion of the Kola Peninsula to the Finns. Finnish statesmen appear anxious to secure an ice-free port in the north, and reports of the gathering together of a German-Finn army to occupy the Murman coast have been frequent. Recently it was announced that a German prince had been asked to accept the Crown of Finland, but this has been since denied. If let alone the Finns would undoubtedly prefer a republic, although, like the Norwegians, they might regard a constitutional monarchy as practically the same thing. There appears to be a fairly large, and well-equipped Finnish army in the field. We can hardly do other than re-

gard Finland as an ally of Germany at the present time.

In Poland and Ukraina.

The Baltic Provinces have all set up their independent Governments, and that of Esthonia at any rate has been recognised by Great Britain. Courland has definitely accepted the Kaiser as reigning Duke, and all these maritime States appear to be more or less under German domination. Early in September the election of a king of Poland is to be held, which ceremony is presumably the final act in the establishment of a Polish kingdom on lines approved by Austria and Germany, with the concurrence of at any rate a section of the Poles. Lithuania is said to be restive under Teutonic demands for recruits for the army, and its Government has formally protested against the exactions of the Germans. Its people are obliged to cultivate the fields and to sell to the Central Powers all surplus crops, receiving therefore special paper money which the Germans themselves will not accept. Ukraina was recognised by the Central Powers at the Peace Conference of Brest-Litovsk, and was assisted by them against the Bolsheviki. In April last the *Rada* was dissolved, and a new Government was set up. This is strongly Pro-German, although it contains members who have openly advocated union with Russia. One of its first acts was to restore private ownership of land, thereby winning the support of the Anti-Bolshevik element, and the approval of monarchists and bureaucrats. German domination of the country would seem to be more absolute than ever. With the Cossacks also leagued with them, the Germans have control of all south Russia from the Danube to the Volga, and the tribesmen fighting the Turks in Trans-Caucasia can hope for no help from Russia.

Roumania Profits.

Difficulty with Ukraina has apparently arisen over the occupation of Bessarabia by the Roumanians. A national assembly had been elected by that province, and, in April last, this voted for union with Roumania by 86 votes to 3. The Roumanian Government immediately proclaimed the Union to be "definitive and indissoluble," and the King duly received the homage of the Bessarabians. Roumania in this way obtained territory which more than compensated her for that lost to the Quadruple Alliance at the Peace Conference in

Bucharest. By the terms of that treaty the southern half of the Dobrudja was retroceded to Bulgaria and the northern half ceded to Austria and Germany, to be governed by a joint Commission of the Central Powers. In addition, the frontier between Hungary and Roumania was "rectified" to allow all the strategic passes and fortified positions in the mountains to pass into Austro-Hungarian hands. Although the enemy terms to Roumania were onerous, the permission to greatly enlarge their territory at the expense of Russia must have gone a long way to reconciling the Roumanians to the Bucharest Treaty. Some decades ago when Russia deprived Roumania of Bessarabia, she gave the Dobrudja as compensation, and bitter were the complaints at the unfairness of the proceeding, for it was pointed out that whereas the former was largely peopled by Roumanians and was a fertile and prosperous land, the Dobrudja, sparsely inhabited by Turks, was a bare and desolate country. Now the Roumanians have got back Bessarabia for the loss of the Dobrudja, and the "accused Pruth" no longer forms the eastern frontier. Instead, the Dniester, the old boundary, now separates Roumania from Russia. This brief survey serves to demonstrate the truth of Dr. Dillon's remarks quoted above, and illustrates the immense difficulties the Allies have to overcome. The tragedy of the situation is that whilst to let things alone in Russia was to permit the Germans to work their will there, to intervene is likely to definitely range large sections of the Russian community against us. Victory for us can only come in the West, but our intervention in the East may force the Kaiser to weaken his armies in France, may possibly prevent him from securing recruits from the Border Provinces and Russia.

What Will Become of Australia's Wheat?

Remarkable confirmation of the accuracy of the suggestions made in my article in our July 13th number, "Should we grow wheat or stock?" is given by Mr. Watt's statement concerning the unsold harvests of Australian wheat. He pointed out that a large part of the 1916-17 crop, and the whole of the 1917-18 is still unsold. Then there is the prospective harvest of 1918-19. Not only is the Commonwealth Government under obligation to pay the farmers 4/- a bushel for the next harvest, but Mr.

Hughes, on its behalf, has promised to purchase the 1919-20 wheat harvest at an enhanced price of 4/4 per bushel. The Acting-Prime Minister referred to the enormous increase of wheat production in the United Kingdom, and pointed out that this is almost certain to have an effect on the price of Australian grain. As I indicated in the mentioned article, Great Britain will probably import far less wheat in the years following the declaration of peace than she did in those just before the war, and what she does get from abroad she will inevitably draw from the nearest market. In any case she would not dream of buying this and next year's Australian harvest—save out of charity—until she had received the great store she has already purchased which is lying in mile-long stacks at our railway terminals. It looks as if the taxpayers of the Commonwealth would have to pay for two, if not three harvests, which the Government will find it almost impossible to dispose of. Surely it is foolish to encourage the growing of wheat under such circumstances, if anything else can be produced instead. *Horribile Dictu*, the only prospective buyer likely to come forward when the war is over is Germany, and, of course, we would rather pay out millions for wheat we cannot use than sell it to her! It would be a great test of the sincerity of the declarations of Mr. Hughes and many others, though, if an offer of purchase did come from Berlin.

New Zealand Notes.

AUGUST 20, 1918.

The Acting-Leader of the Liberal Party, who is Minister for Mines and some smaller responsibilities, has just announced that 96,000 men have left New Zealand on active service. There are 8,400 in camp, and 2,500 on home service. The number of men discharged or awaiting discharge is 18,044; 1,865 have returned to duty, and 2,868 are under treatment or on sick leave.

The coal difficulty is at an acute stage. The mine-owners still adhere to their decision not to meet the leaders of the Miners' Federation. The members of the unions composing the federation just expressed themselves by ballot on the question of a strike in the event of the mine-owners persisting in refusing to meet the men's representatives. The voting in favour of a strike was emphatic—2,157 in favour and 84 against. The Acting-Prime Minister

has pointed out that if the miners strike they were liable to heavy penalties, and any man who came out on strike would forfeit his exemption right. Unless wiser counsels prevail neither the threat of the law nor the fear of military service will save us from an ugly position. The price of coal has mounted up of late, and the wise thing would appear to be an inquiry to determine who are the real exploiters.

The cabled references to the proposal to appoint a New Zealand Minister in the Imperial War Cabinet have excited some interest, though in the absence of details the comment has been guarded. Everything depends on how far the powers of internal self-government are affected, though even in this important matter the British Government has already wielded a

large influence. The pronouncements of the absent leaders are awaited with interest.

The proposed poll on the liquor question is the topic of the hour. Visiting and local orators are holding meetings in various parts of the country, and with unprecedented advertising the campaign will account for many thousands of pounds. The situation has been complicated by the demand of the Trade and the Moderate Party for the addition of State Control and Continuance to the ballot-paper when the poll is taken. At the moment it would appear that Parliament has a difficult job before it in deciding what issues will be put to the people. One thing appears certain—the poll will not take place this year.

POST WAR PROBLEMS.*

By PROF. MEREDITH ATKINSON, M.A., UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

I. —A LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

It is the purpose of this series of articles to deal with the problems of reconstruction that will face us at the end of the war. While it is quite impossible to make any practicable forecast of the exact scope and nature of the movements that will immediately be set going, we may do much to lay foundations of lasting peace and social progress by preparing our minds to guide such movements into safe and beneficent channels. It is my firm belief that not a single one of these problems will be solved unless we envisage all the rest in a comprehensive scheme of reconstruction. Thus a League of Nations and the conception of a "world safe for democracy" cannot rest upon the mere machinery of international relations. They involve the social problem, the internal conditions of the State, the progress of trade and commerce, the future control of industry—indeed, the whole field of human thought and effort. If it be urged that this is making the world problem too overwhelming for the finite mind, I would reply that these problems are finally settled in the mind of the individual, and that what is necessary is not that he should understand every detail of them, but that he should see the parts of the world in

which he lives in their proper relation, and should be conscious of his rights and his duties in every sphere in which he moves, from his family up to the world at large.

THE CAUSES OF WAR.

The need for dealing with each of these post-war problems as part of a comprehensive whole is at no time brought out so clearly as when we seek to analyse the causes of war. In the first place it is obvious that there is not one single cause of war, as some extremists would have us believe. There are several causes which together involve the whole human problem. Nationality, religion, economic conditions either internal or external, social ideals, political institutions—all these may cause and have caused some of the most terrible of human conflicts. From the hunger wars of our barbarian ancestors up to the present world-conflict, with all its modern perplexities, almost every conceivable human motive has been at one time or another behind some war. While the cruder incentives to human conflict have been removed, man has carried forward with him much of his earlier tendency to aggression and selfishness, and his institutions are still too closely modelled on the relics of his past.

*Professor Meredith Atkinson's next article will appear in our October 5th issue.

The incubus of the ages checks his emergence into the light of a world better fitted to his higher self. While man has progressed in social welfare and gone far towards recognising the unity of all mankind, the world still suffers from chronic instability—that of an inverted cone with the financial and dynastic interests at the apex, and the poverty-stricken masses at the base. Within the bodies of the nations are undigested fragments of ravished peoples, acting as constant irritants in the states which seek to absorb them, and constituting a never-ending menace to the peace of the world.

Slavs, Poles, Bohemians, Roumanians, Bulgarians, Serbs, and Italians furnish problems even more important to the world than they are to those separate nations. In their treatment of these and kindred problems all governments and powers have been moved mainly by self-interest, qualified by national character and public opinion. The foreign policies of the nations have thus become dangerously corrupt, and have made for war rather than peace, since they have done little or nothing to remove the wrongs and evils from which the world is suffering. The corruption of international relations is therefore due to:—

1. The political ignorance of the people.
2. The political power and jobbery of financiers, concessionaires, and armament interests.
3. Racial and national ambitions, both legitimate and aggressive.
4. The past economic and political history of each nation.
5. The form of its government.
6. Its educational system and ideals.
7. Inheritance of false ideals of national greatness by practically all nations.
8. The bad social conditions which exist in almost every country.

Thus, the affairs of the world constantly tend to move in a vicious circle: the poverty and ignorance of the masses, the monopoly of power by aristocratic and plutocratic classes, the search for their aggrandisement in concessions, colonies and dependencies, competition with foreign powers for these ends, military preparedness and chronic nervousness, aggravation of conflicting interests ending in war, until we come back to the evils of poverty and ignorance. Our one hope is that the end of this war will be unlike all others in that it will finally awaken the peoples of the world to resist the vicious trend of history to repeat itself. But we cannot build up a Federation of the World without establishing a social order

in which all the aforementioned causes of disruption have been rendered impossible.

THE FORCES OF UNITY.

While the forces dividing the world into hostile sections have in the main proved too strong to preserve the peace, there have long been at work important forces making for unity. We must recognise these, not only that we may have a complete picture, but because they offer us excellent foundations on which to build a world safe for democracy. The most important of these are economic forces, which unite as well as divide. The use of machinery, the growth of capital, the provision of new markets, improved transport and communication, and the expansion of the power of the great nations have helped to make the world one great economic universe. Every country depends in some degree on every other country for its supplies, and the satisfaction of its needs. Another force making for unity is the rising social ideal now found in every country. These tendencies lead to the growth of significant movements towards international agreements and unions. Frontier questions have been more and more frequently settled by arbitration. The international control of posts, telegraphs, railways, currency; the prevention of diseases, the promotion of commercial, agricultural and scientific interests—all these matters have been the subjects of elaborate agreements between the nations, the scope of which was constantly being enlarged before the war. International bureaux and commissions, based upon diplomatic conventions, had invaded almost every sphere of international relations. The first moral question to be dealt with was that of the Slave Trade, in 1840. Since then a multitude of questions have been amicably settled by discussion between official representatives and voluntary workers for a better understanding between nations. Another important force making for unity has been the International Labour Movement. Though by no means strong enough to prevent war, the increasing solidarity which binds the sentiment and interest of the various Labour movements, is destined to be amongst the most important human elements working for permanent peace. Now that wars involve the entire populations of the countries affected, the working class will play a part of increasing importance in determining the issues of peace and war, and all classes will be more likely to be united on such questions.

NATURE OF THE MACHINERY.

On the other hand, modern conditions have actually facilitated the outbreak of war between Governments, since, given secret diplomacy, discussions which might before occupy many weeks can now be arrived at after a few hours of telegraphic exchanges. This has the double effect of preventing the peoples immediately concerned exercising a decisive influence on momentous events, and of making it impossible for the more impartial opinion of neutral nations to be thrown into the scale. These developments make secret diplomacy more dangerous than ever, and render open dealing before the eyes of the people an essential condition of a League of Nations. Another development of modern times is the necessity under which Governments feel themselves compelled to seek security in gigantic armaments. The present war has carried us still further by showing that almost the whole populations of belligerent countries and the bulk of their material resources are marshalled to conduct warfare on the modern scale. This latter development not only makes the burden of war more intolerable than ever, but will make the problem of complete disarmament much more difficult, since the disarming of a nation cannot now be effected by a mere reduction of its standing army and navy. Incidentally, it may be remarked that the nationalisation of armaments has also lost much of its force, as a remedy, since the preparations for a modern war are now on a scale far beyond the capacity of private firms. This does not mean that disarmament would be ineffectual, but merely that its relative importance has been diminished. The moral effect of disarmament would be incalculable, and entirely justifies the most strenuous effort to secure it.

Granting that the public opinion of the various nations has never been sufficiently well informed or elevated to play a decisive part in determining the issues of peace and war, it may be declared emphatically that such a corporate expression as even the existing mass of opinion has long needed, has never been possible owing to the lack of a vehicle. National institutions have remained so remote from the thought and feeling of the people, that evil counsels have always had a fatal start of public opinion, or have viciously infected it.

The needs to be met by any organisation or machinery of an international league may be expressed in three words—(a) Morato-

rium, (b) Investigation, (c) Enforcement. We should have the maximum prospect of preventing wars, if we could make sure of a period of delay for conciliation, machinery to investigate the facts and place them before both representatives and nations; and, lastly, of arrangements between the members of the league for defence against recalcitrant states, or enforcement of the league's decrees. Above all, a period must be provided for in which free discussion can take place, and the tribunal of world opinion can form and deliver its judgment.

The more ambitious exponents of the idea of the League of Nations would admit representatives of practically all the world's sovereign States. The inclusion of States like those of Central and South America, and of some parts of Asia and Africa, would probably overweight the scheme, especially at the beginning. It would seem most practicable and would least endanger the success of the scheme, not to attempt immediately any federation of the world or even the establishment of a United States of Europe, but to base the initial scheme on the inclusion of all the Great Powers, providing for the accession of such others as may apply for inclusion. Bit by bit, as experience was gained, it should prove possible to draw into the union every sovereign state in the world. The constituent members would be asked to bind themselves by treaty to refer all disputes to judicial arbitration for decision, or to an international council of conciliation for investigation and report; and to take defensive or penal action in concert in circumstances to be outlined. Whether coercive action shall extend beyond military operations—such as an economic boycott—is a question demanding separate treatment.

SCHEMES SUMMARISED.

The plans of the various societies advocating a League of Nations in the Allied countries have been discussed in a previous article in the REVIEW. It will be useful here to summarise their common points and to discuss which of these are practicable or desirable. All the schemes are based on the ultimate union of the civilised states of the world. All distinguish spheres for the settlement of disputes, as between purely justiciable questions, to be settled in a Court of Arbitration, and those larger issues affecting the honour and vital interests of the nations. All provide for coercion by the states in combination against any other

failing to adopt the measures laid down by the majority. All rely upon gaining time for public discussion and impartial judgment to make war morally difficult, if not impossible. Recommendations of the International Council would, when ratified by the nations, form the basis of a new code of international law. Disputes arising thereafter within that code would be dealt with by the Court of Arbitration. Various Allied leaders, especially President Wilson, have laid down fundamental principles for safeguarding the rights of nations and preparing the way for permanent peace. Self-determination, territorial integrity, national liberty, reference of all international problems to a League of Nations—these are the main principles on which the league's policy is to be based. It must be confessed that they do not carry us very far, for it is the application of these principles to the practical problems as they arise that creates most of the dissension. The first need will be to get the seven Great Powers of Europe and America to agree to the creation of international machinery for preventing war and establishing permanent understandings between the nations. To set up an international authority will involve for each nation some sacrifice of sovereignty. But we must be careful not to go too far in the demands that we make upon national sentiment, especially in the atmosphere of suspicion that will long remain after the war. Complete disarmament cannot at once be expected, but we may hope for a big reduction in the military and naval establishments of all the nations, if only because of the difficulty created by financial stringency. If the nations can also be persuaded to create an international police force, so much the better, but for that to be effective on the scale of modern warfare, the force would have to be enormous. In the matter of alliances also we must beware of asking too much. The present Allies will tend to favour each other for a long time to come. Existing treaties and agreements cannot safely be repudiated at once. It would be even dangerous to the League to remove too hastily the present bonds of union between Powers. What it may hope to do is to prevent those unions taking the form of offensive alliances, allowing only for defensive associations under definite conditions. If the League solved in a practical fashion most of the questions brought before it, the nations would gradually be brought to rely upon

this International Parliament, and what is dangerous in alliances would gradually fall away.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL.

It is in this body, rather than in the judicial court, that the most important functions will centre, and the greatest difficulties be experienced. Matters of first consideration will be the manner of appointment of delegates and the quality of the men selected. The ingenious proposal that each Parliament should appoint its national quota on the principle of proportional representation in each Parliament, would secure the fairest distribution of influence amongst the various shades of opinion. No one direction of foreign policy would be likely to be pursued to the exclusion of other views. Another advantage of this arrangement would be that similar schools of opinion in various countries would tend to draw together and so cross the dangerous boundaries of an exclusive nationalism. There are, however, some objections to this kind of delegation. It is questionable whether men accustomed to the thought and methods of party politics in their own countries are best fitted to conduct such exceedingly delicate negotiations as a Council of this character would have to undertake. There is danger also in the solidarity of parties on an international basis, since that might result merely in broadening and perpetuating the party system in a sphere where its faults could do infinitely more damage. It would seem that the real virtue of such a scheme of representation, namely, that of public discussion of international affairs, can be gained without those accompanying dangers.

The type of man required for such work is not the politician, but the highly trained publicist, men of the calibre of Lord Bryce or President Wilson. One has in mind a kind of public international commissioner, who combines, in the highest degree, the qualities of the judge, the diplomat, and the publicist. Such men are very uncommon, but each nation has produced some of them, and many more would emerge, if such careers opened up before them. Apart from the International Council, an increasing number of commissioners of this type will be needed in the future to administer those lands whose disputed possession or geographical situation cause them to be constituted neutral or international territory. Such commissioners as are suggested could still be elected, in that Parliament would have the right of ratify-

ing their selection, and could add to their number a proportion of each party in the House. But it is highly desirable that all should be appointed for a term of years, so as to make the Council permanent, to give the members adequate experience, and to avoid any suspicion that they are elected to further any particular scheme. Full public discussion could be provided for by the appointment of a Foreign Affairs Committee in each Parliament, on the plan of proportional representation, whose business it would be to discuss international affairs and to keep in close touch with the Council of Nations. They would report to Parliament at regular intervals, and through the debates and press discussions a most desirable publicity would be achieved.

It is not suggested, at any rate at first, that the Council should possess any executive power. No Government would be formally bound by its decisions. It would report its views upon the solutions of the problems presented to it to the public of all nations. This would provide the greatest possible assurance that any action taken by the Government would be in accordance with an instructed public opinion, which is at least more favourable to peace than is secret diplomacy. The real danger is always the corrupt or secret action of politicians. The scheme outlined aims directly at providing safeguards against that evil. The abolition of secret diplomacy and the democratic control of foreign policy are absolutely essential and perfectly practicable reforms.

SOME DIFFICULTIES AND OBJECTIONS.

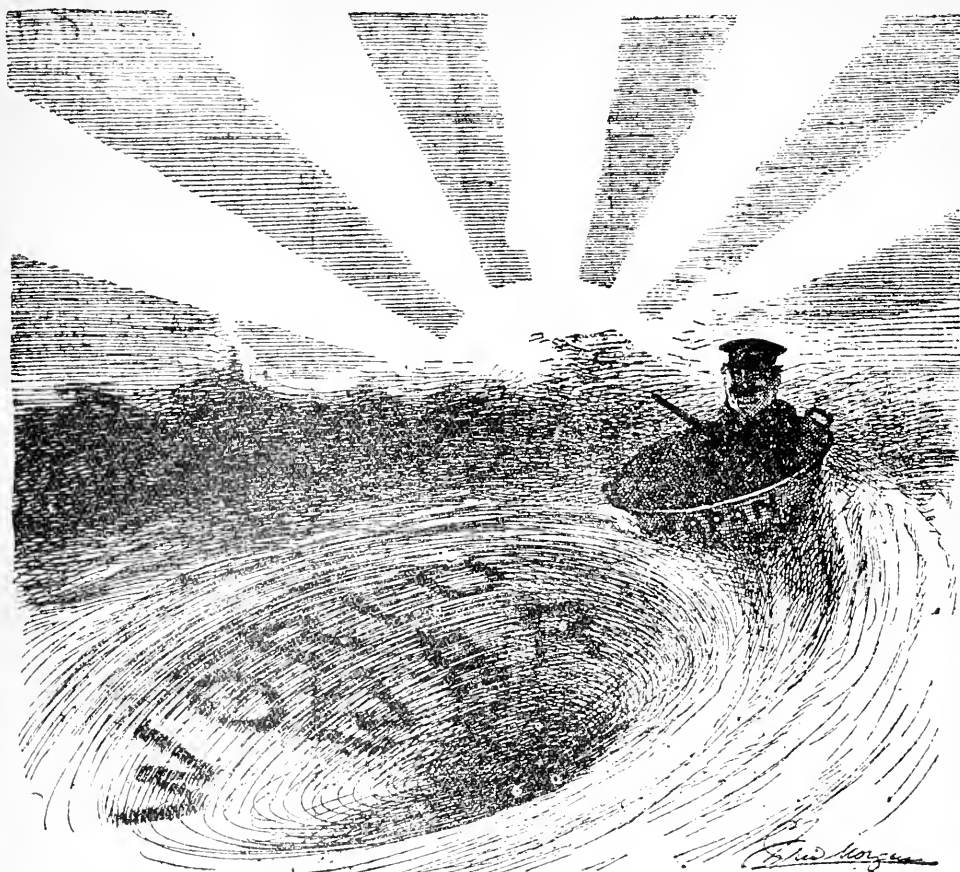
The new League must not exist merely to exercise negative functions. It must seek to construct the peace, not merely to prevent occasions of war. It must be a co-operative society rather than a mere vigilance committee. It should give scope to the creative and formative will of the international mind. To accomplish this will be very difficult, for the conservative tendencies of leagues and conferences are very real. The League must be of such a character as to ensure fair decisions and the enactment of mature changes in the world. It must not stereotype existing empires and powers, and thus operate against the legitimate aspirations of less fortunate nations.

Some questions are too delicate and thorny to be tackled at present. For example, would Austria submit the Balkan question? Or Germany that of Poland or Alsace? Or Britain that of Gibraltar, Ireland or India? It is well for us to be

aware that if we, as British citizens, commit ourselves to a League of Nations, we shall at once be confronted with such thorny problems as the future of India, our intervention in Persia, the freedom of the seas, and our possession of many naval stations all over the world, not to mention the Irish question, which our enemies will endeavour to make international. Economic conditions after the war will force the nations to seek in combination some solution of the problems presented by the scarcity of foodstuffs, raw materials and shipping. It is more than probable that many nations will be pressed to revise their tariffs, especially on foodstuffs, so as to reduce to a minimum the injury inflicted upon other nations by checks upon the free supply of necessary commodities. For the same reason, irresistible pressure may be brought to bear upon nations who seek to limit the opportunities to be enjoyed by other nations of using ocean ports which lie upon the great trade routes of the world. These and many other questions hitherto considered to be the exclusive province of each nation concerned will soon become matters of such international moment that the League of Nations will find them amongst its most pressing business.

Another difficulty will consist in exactly defining what is meant by hostile preparation on the part of a constituent government. It is possible for a Government inspired by hostile feelings to take many courses of action, having a military and economic significance, perhaps of the pin-pricking variety, or to make an intimidating demonstration, which yet would be difficult to prohibit. There seems no other way of meeting this problem than by affording a complaining power the readiest facilities for report and redress. Only experience could determine such conditions as these.

The application of coercive measures will offer serious practical difficulties. Agreement as to the exact measures to be adopted, the difficulty of securing unanimity and of fairly distributing the risk and responsibility, all are matters for very serious consideration. Such practical problems, however, can only be solved in the light of experience gained in the actual working of the scheme. Every difficulty successfully overcome will greatly strengthen the chances of the League of securing permanent peace resting on free consent.



[Enquirer.]

NEARING THE HONOURABLE VORTEX

[Philadelphia]

HISTORY IN CARICATURE.

Oh, wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us.—Burns.

One of the best cartoons which has appeared recently is reproduced above. It shows Japan being dragged into the whirlpool of the world war, and only too accurately forecasts the probable result of Allied intervention in Russia.

The demand for the despatch of Japanese troops to Siberia appears to have been general, and is reflected by the cartoon papers. *The Passing Show* urges Mr. Balfour to get busy at once, but *The Newark News* strikes a needed note of warning in its cartoon, "Suspicious Ivan."

The cartoonist of *De Amsterdammer* has the same idea as had the artist of *The Philadelphia Telegraph* in a cartoon reproduced in our last number.

Kladderadatsch shows the Allies as being horrified at the fraternising of the Germans and Russians in the international Beer Garden.

Great numbers of cartoons deal with the tipping of the scales owing to American intervention in France. The English are as eager as the Americans to show that without the assistance of the men from the



[London]
PASSING SHAW.
STRIKE WHILE THE IRON'S HOT, MAN.



[Newark]
SUSPICIOUS IVAN.
News.



[Johannesburg]
Rand Daily Mail.
THE DOCTOR: "Is your Majesty praying for his soul?"
THE KAISER: "No; I am praying that his disease is not infectious."



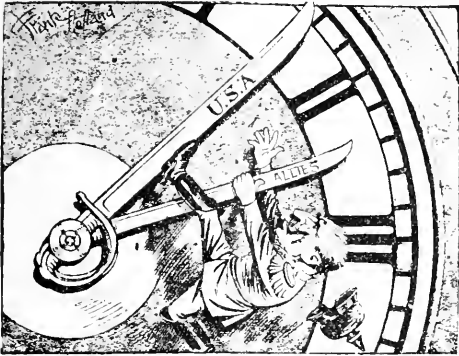
[Berlin]
THE VIRTUOUS VIGILANTS "Scandalous! Shocking!"
Kladderadatsch.



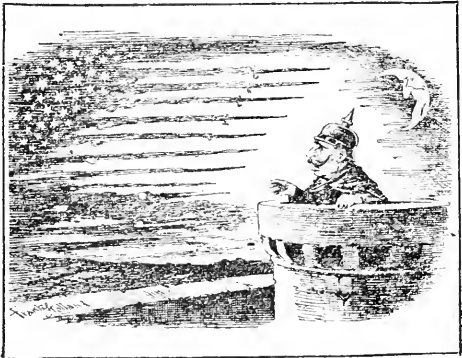
[Newark]
THE MEETING OF CUT AND DRIED.
News.



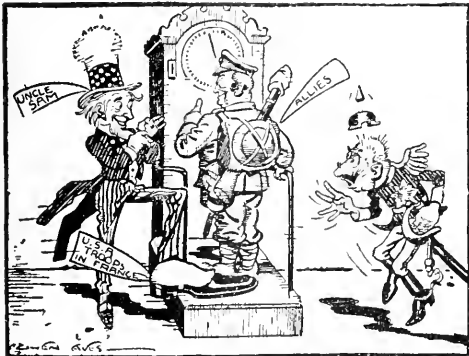
[Amsterdam]
THE RUSSIAN RESURRECTION.
THE KAISER: "Confound it, I believe the thing is actually alive, after all!"



John Bull. [London.]
FIGHTING AGAINST TIME—THE BIG HAND
ADVANCES



John Bull. [London.]
THE STAR-GAZER.
Beholding Heaven and Feeling Hell



National News. [London.]
AMERICA BEGINNING TO TURN THE SCALES
KAISER: "Ach, sey gain weight at ze critical
time!"



Citizen. [Brooklyn.]
LOOK OUT, BELOW!



American. [Baltimore.]
HE WANTS TO KNOW.



News.] [Newark.
ANY EXCUSE WILL SERVE A TYRANT.

"There is my supper," thought he, "if only I can find an excuse to seize it." Then he called out to the lamb, "How dare you muddy the water from which I am drinking!"—Æsop.

Whilst the cartoon from *The Newark News* is quite good, it rather lacks application to the particular situation it is intended to elucidate.

The Brooklyn Eagle is clever in its ill-drawn sketch, showing a German wheeling sand and gravel over the prostrate body of Holland.



Eagle. [Brooklyn.
"We are now in complete accord."—Berlin.

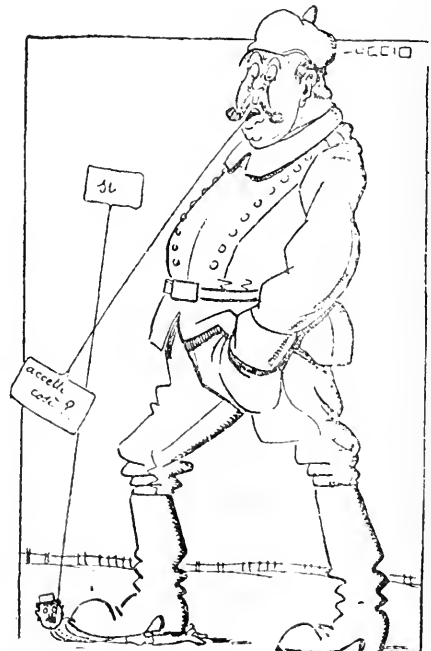
The Swiss *Nebelspalter* cleverly depicts the position of Switzerland, and does not seem particularly grateful for the sort of rescue offered by the Allies!

Il 420 shows how peace was made with Roumania. This unfortunate country is depicted beneath the boot of Hindenburg, shouting its agreement with the German terms.

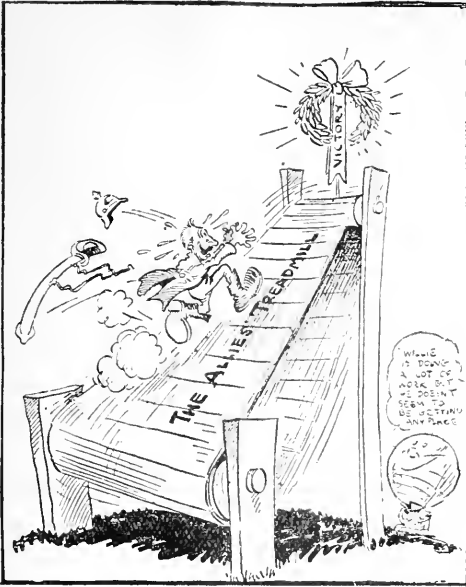


Nebelspalter. [Zurich.
THE RESCUE.

THE ALLIES: "Poor little Swiss fish! Here we are. Wicked Fritz sha'n't catch you."



[Florence.
HOW PEACE WAS MADE WITH ROUMANIA.



Sun.]

[Pittsburgh.

SO NEAR AND YET SO FAR!



Kladderatsch.]

[Berlin.

SHYLOCK: "My dear Sir John Falstaff, what is the matter?"
FALSTAFF: "The devil take me for an ass to go to Ireland on a recruiting mission."

The cartoon from *Jugend*, entitled "Well Guarded," is interesting, as Ludendorff for the first time takes the place of Hindenburg as the guardian of Germany, and particularly of Alsace-Lorraine.



Jugend.]

WELL GUARDED

[Berlin.



Star.]

[Montreal.

IT MAY BEND, BUT IT SPRINGS BACK.



Le Pêle-Mêle.]

[Paris.

A FRENCH ARTIST ON FOOD RATIONS.

"Where are you going so fast, old man?"
"Hurrying to get my place on the bread line. I'm all in a sweat!"
"That's all right; we are told we must win our bread by the sweat of our brow!"



[Ledger.] [Philadelphia.]
 VY, ALMOST CAN I BELIEVE IT MEINSELF!

The *Philadelphia Ledger* has a clever conception of the peace proposals, and the declaration by the Austrian Emperor that all is quiet in his Empire is ridiculed by *The Passing Show*.

The Spanish papers have been devoting much attention to the sinking of Spanish



[Esquella.] [Barcelona.]

THE SUBMARINES AND SPAIN.

"Oh, don't bother; it's only a Spanish ship."

ships by German submarines, and many cartoons have appeared on the subject. We reproduce one herewith.

The suggestion of General Botha that it might be necessary to import natives from tropical Africa to work the gold mines is the occasion of the cartoon in the *Johannesburg Sunday Times*.



[Truthful Karl.] [London.]

TRUTHFUL KARL.

"There has been nothing whatever the matter, gentlemen"



[Sunday Times.] [Johannesburg.]

THE CONTEMPLATED SACRIFICE.

Prime Minister Botha recently suggested the possibility of once more importing tropical African natives to work in the gold mines.

CATECHISM OF THE WAR—LXXV.

Since August, 1914, when the war began, 2097 questions have been asked and answered in this Section.

Q.—What does it cost to transport wheat across the Atlantic?

A.—Before the war it cost 1.25 francs to send a quintal of wheat from Argentine to Great Britain. At the end of 1917 it cost 25 francs, or twenty times more. One quintal of cereals could be sent from the United States to French Atlantic ports for 1.45 francs before the war. In December, 1917, the price charged was 32.6 francs, or twenty-three times more.

Q.—Was the world harvest of cereals in 1917 above the average?

A.—The aggregate yield of the 1917 crop in the Northern Hemisphere, and 1917-18 crop in the Southern Hemisphere, for the following countries, viz.: Denmark, Spain, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Norway, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden, Canada, United States, British India, Japan, Algeria, Egypt, Tunis, Argentine, Uruguay, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, was 610,297,000 quintals, as compared with 591,433,000 quintals in 1916 and 1916-17, and 674,809,000 quintals, the average yield for the three years, 1914-16. The wheat crop was therefore slightly better than that of the previous year, but only reached 90.4 per cent. of the three years previous average. The yield of rye was 91.7 per cent. of the average, but the yields of barley and oats were 1.3 and 10.6 per cent. respectively above the average. The maize crop, too, was better than for many years, being 13.3 per cent. higher than the average.

Q.—How many prisoners are to be exchanged between France and Germany?

A.—The exchange is already going on, and according to Lord Newton about 330,000 men, including civilians and soldiers are being exchanged. The total number involved is therefore 660,000. The main provisions in the agreement were as follow :—

1. All non-commissioned officers and men were to be repatriated, head for head and grade for grade, if they had been in captivity for eighteen months.

2. Officers who had been in captivity for eighteen months were to be interned in

Switzerland, head for head, regardless of rank.

3. Officers, non-commissioned officers, and men taken prisoners before November, 1916, and interned in Switzerland on the ground of ill-health, were, with certain exceptions, to be repatriated without regard to rank or number.

4. Invalids were to be repatriated or interned in Switzerland under the Berne Agreement of March 15th, 1918.

Q.—How many British civilian prisoners of war are there in Germany?

A.—3750, of whom some 2600 are seamen. The number of German civilians in Great Britain is said to be 21,000. It is interesting to note, by the way, that it was the German Government which first suggested a meeting at The Hague to discuss matters of acute difficulty which had arisen. Lord Newton said that the British Government took advantage of this suggestion in order to intimate that it was prepared to discuss these questions, on condition that a wider scheme of exchange was debated. That was the origin of the recent conference which was finally brought to a successful conclusion.

Q.—Did the owners of merchant ships and river craft generally destroyed by the Austro-Germans when they invaded Roumania receive any compensation?

A.—A special clause of the Treaty of Bucharest which concluded the war between Roumania and the Central Powers dealt with this matter. It provided that captured river craft, merchant ships and cargo, should be returned, or that they should be paid for if no longer in existence, and that compensation should also be paid for the period they were in the captors' possession. This carries out the stipulation of The Hague Conference, and is rather surprising in view of the fact that the Germans could practically dictate any terms they chose to the Roumanians. Reference has often been made to the clause in the Convention which covers the use of enemy ships found in belligerent harbours at the outbreak of war. This permits their use, but only on a hire basis—that is to say, that all the German vessels found in Australian ports in

August, 1914, can be used during the war, but when the war is over payment for their use must be made to the companies owning them. This applies also, of course, to the German ships taken over by the Italians, by the Americans, and by the Brazilians.

Q.—Is it true that farm hands in Great Britain were paid less than 20s. a week before the war?

A.—That is, unfortunately, too true; in fact, in many places they received no more than 12s. a week, and out of that had to pay their rent as well as find their food. The Corn Production Act of 1917 greatly increased the wages and generally improved the conditions of labour. The following comparison is interesting:—

	Wage in 1907.	Wage in 1912.	New Minimum Wage.
Surrey	18s. 9d.	19s. 7d.	34s. od.
Norfolk	15s. 4d.	17s. 6d.	30s. od.
Oxford	14s. 11d.	17s. od.	30s. od.
Suffolk	15s. 9d.	18s. od.	30s. od.
Devon	17s. 9d.	19s. od.	31s. od.

Q.—Could you tell me how many countries are actually at war with Germany?

A.—According to a statement made by Mr. Balfour in May, the following countries declared war on Germany on the dates mentioned:—

Russia	August 1st, 1914
France	August 3rd, 1914
Belgium	August 3rd, 1914
Great Britain	August 4th, 1914
Serbia	August 6th, 1914
Montenegro	August 9th, 1914
Japan	August 23rd, 1914
Portugal	March 9th, 1916
Italy	August 28th, 1916
Roumania	August 28th, 1916
United States	April 6th, 1917
Cuba	April 7th, 1917
Panama	April 10th, 1917
Greece	June 29th, 1917
Siam	July 22nd, 1917
Liberia	August 4th, 1917
China	August 14th, 1917
Brazil	October 26th, 1917
Guatemala	April 23rd, 1918

Since Mr. Balfour's statement was made, Costa Rica declared war on Germany on May 24th. According to his announcement, the following countries had broken off diplomatic relations with Germany:—

Bolivia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Hayti, Santo Domingo, Costa Rica, Peru, Uruguay, Ecuador.

Q.—How is Great Britain able to continue financing the war without raising further loans?

A.—Since raising the third War Loan, which realised £1,000,000,000, the British Government has adopted a different method

of financing. Instead of going to the people for another loan, it has fostered the sale of what are known as War Bonds. These are issued in denominations from £5 upwards, and bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. They are redeemable ten years after the date of issue. The sales to the beginning of June amounted to £754,660,415. At the same time the Treasury had issued Treasury Bills to the value of no less than £1,005,587,000, up to the end of June—that is to say that since the last loan was issued the Government has obtained £1,760,247,415 by the sale of Treasury Bills and War Bonds. The amount of Treasury Bills outstanding, however, is so large that they will probably have to be redeemed shortly by the raising of another War Loan. All the War Bonds issued to date must be redeemable in 1928.

Q.—How much money has the United States lent to Great Britain?

A.—The United States Treasury, up to the middle of May, had lent Great Britain 2,795,000,000 dollars, and in addition large numbers of British Treasury Bills carrying 6 per cent. have been taken up in the United States. The annual sum Great Britain must pay to America on account of money lent her to date is £30,000,000. At the present rate of borrowing the amount of money to meet interest which will have to cross the Atlantic annually in future if the war continues for another year will be at least £70,000,000.

Q.—Is the New Zealand Government able to seize the property of men who evade military service?

A.—The Government has no such power. In any case if the law allowed confiscation it could easily be evaded. In the Expeditionary Forces Bill, which among other things exempted school teachers from service, there was a provision to deprive men evading military service of civil rights for a period of ten years, but the Bill failed to pass, though that particular provision was approved by both Houses.

Q.—Could you tell me whether there are many Canadian war prisoners in Germany?

A.—I have not been able to secure recent official figures, but at the end of the year the missing and prisoners were returned as 31,955, and the Canadian Red Cross is said to be sending supplies for some 25,000 prisoners in Germany.

Q.—Where were the British submarines which had to be destroyed to prevent them falling into German hands when the Kaiser's troops landed in Finland?

A.—There were seven British submarines and four Russian submarines which had been made in America ice-bound in the harbour of Helsingfors. These were the craft which were blown up in order to prevent them from falling into enemy hands.

Q.—Are the Finns getting supplies from America?

A.—Just before German intervention in Finland the Finns had purchased large quantities of grain in the United States, and arrangements for its transport to feed the starving people had been made. These supplies have apparently not been sent across the Atlantic, and the food situation in Finland is exceedingly bad. 20,000 tons of grain were sent two months ago from Denmark, most of this having been taken from the Government stocks at the expense of the home bakeries, but it is estimated that this amount is not half enough. Owing to the German domination of Finland the Allies are not inclined to allow any supplies to go through for that State.

Q.—Are the Germans doing much to develop trade with Russia and the Balkans?

A.—They are building two trunk railways, the first to Odessa, which links up with the Budapest-Vienna-Munich line by way of Bistritza, Jassy and Kishinief, the second connecting Hungary and Northern Roumania with Mohileff. In addition they are greatly developing traffic on the Danube, and navigation now goes on all through the night. The main feature of the night system is the use of powerful searchlights in place of beacons and life-buoys. During the first six months of the new system the volume of traffic showed an increase of no less than 222 per cent.

Q.—What is the cotton production of the United States?

A.—The record was in 1914 when 16,135,000 bales were produced. In 1915 production dropped to 11,192,000 bales, but there has been a slight increase since then. As the American bale contains 500 lbs., the tonnage production in 1914 was 3,601,562.

Q.—Does it require 200 lbs. of cotton to make the explosive to fire a shell from a twelve-inch gun?

A.—The matter has been dealt with before in these columns, and is also explained

in STEAD'S WAR FACTS. Cotton is only used for propulsive ammunition, not for the explosive which fills the shells. The weight of charge—as the propulsive powder is called—for a twelve-inch gun varies considerably. The shorter variety uses about 200 lbs. and the longer 270 lbs. The projectile would weigh about 900 lbs. To make 1000 lbs. of propulsive powder like guncotton, 550 lbs. of cotton are used, so the charge for an ordinary twelve-inch gun would contain 110 lbs. of cotton. The longer variety would require about 150 lbs. of cotton to make its 270 lbs. charge. Roughly, 25 grains of cotton are used in every machine gun cartridge. As a machine gun can fire up to 700 shots a minute—but seldom does—it would use up 17,500 grains, or 2½ lbs. of cotton in sixty seconds. Firing at its maximum speed for an hour—an impossible feat—a machine gun would therefore consume 150 lbs. of cotton.

Q.—Can any other substance but cotton be used in the manufacture of propulsive powders?

A.—Originally wood fibre was used for the purpose, but cotton fibre proved much more suitable. No doubt the Germans have been obliged to use wood fibre, and other substitutes as the 200,000 bails they could get from Turkey annually would be quite inadequate. Cotton is probably reaching Germany now from South Russia and Turkestan.

Q.—Where does the world's supply of tin come from?

A.—The total production in 1916 was 262,640,000 pounds. Half this quantity came from the Straits Settlements. The figures are interesting:—

Straits Settlements	137,084,000 lbs.
Bolivia	43,456,000 „
Dutch Indies	45,472,000 „
South Africa	13,440,000 „
Australia	5,036,000 „
China	6,272,000 „
Cornwall	10,080,000 „

The output of tin from Cornwall has steadily declined, despite the huge price at which that metal now stands. It is one of the few metals which is entirely outside the control of the Allied Governments. To-day tin is selling at £371 10s. a ton. The very best copper is bringing £133 a ton. In pre-war days the prices were: Tin, £200; copper, £70.

Q.—Have many new millionaires been made in America as a result of the war?

A.—Some guide to that may be obtained from the income tax returns. These

show that 206 people returned their annual income as over 1,000,000 dollars in 1916, as compared with 60 who did so in 1914.

Income Class.		Number of returns filed.		
Dollars.	Dollars.	1914.	1915.	1916
1,000 to	4,000	82,754	69,045	86,122
4,000 to	5,000	66,625	58,919	72,027
5,000 to	10,000	127,448	120,402	150,553
10,000 to	15,000	34,141	34,102	45,300
15,000 to	20,000	15,790	16,475	22,618
20,000 to	25,000	8,672	9,707	12,953
25,000 to	30,000	5,483	6,106	8,055
30,000 to	40,000	6,008	7,005	10,068
40,000 to	50,000	3,185	4,100	5,611
50,000 to	100,000	5,161	6,847	10,452
100,000 to	150,000	1,180	1,708	2,900
150,000 to	200,000	406	724	1,284
200,000 to	250,000	238	386	726
250,000 to	300,000	130	216	427
300,000 to	400,000	147	254	400
400,000 to	500,000	60	122	245
500,000 to	1,000,000	114	200	370
1,000,000 and over		60	120	206
Separate returns filed by women...		7,635

Totals ... 357,620 336,627 438,036

Q.—Is it really true that the Swiss are experiencing greater privations than even the belligerent peoples?

A.—The price of food has increased more in Switzerland than in any other country, and the shortage of coal is worse there even than it is in Italy. The following table gives some idea of the high prices the Swiss have to pay for the necessities of life. One kilo is, roughly, two pounds, and a litre is $1\frac{1}{4}$ pints:—

	April, 1914.	April, 1918.	Increase, Per cent.
Frans. Frans.			
Suet (per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo) ...	0.70	3.00	320
New-laid eggs (each) ...	0.10	0.35	250
Bacon (per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo) ...	1.30	4.20	223
Sugar (per kilo) ...	0.55	1.48	169
Fresh pork (per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo) ...	1.20	7.00	150
Potatoes per (100 kilos) ...	10.00	22.00	120
Beef (per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo) ...	1.00	2.00	100
Flour (per $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo) ...	0.45	0.84	87
Butter (per kilo) ...	3.60	6.53	81
Milk (per litre) ...	0.23	0.33	43
Briquettes (per 100 kilos) ...	4.00	12.00	200

Switzerland gets 75,000 tons of coal monthly from Germany in exchange for the hydro-electric energy used in Switzerland for manufacturing electro-chemical articles for Germany without Germany controlling it. France offered to supply 85,000 tons of coal providing that Germany continued to give the 75,000 tons, but difficulties occurred in the negotiations,

and in the end France agreed to do no more than furnish the coal necessary for those industries working on behalf of the Allied Powers. As the Swiss industries for the most part use electric energy, the total amount required is only 35,000 tons monthly. The Swiss are therefore likely to go very cold this winter.

Q.—Who presided over the conference on prisoners of war?

A.—It was opened on June 8th at The Hague. The delegates entered the conference room by two doors, the British coming in from one end and the Germans from the other. All the delegates sat at the same side of a long table, with M. Loudon, Dutch Foreign Minister, in the middle, separating the two parties. He formerly introduced them by reading their names from a list, and then made a speech of welcome. Sir George Cave, the leader of the British delegation, acknowledged the hospitality offered by the Dutch nation. He spoke in perfect French for about ten minutes. General Friedrich followed with acknowledgements to the Dutch Government, but spoke in German. M. Loudon then left the conference room, and the sitting continued under the presidency of Dr. Vredenburg, Dutch Minister to Scandinavia, who had presided over the last conference.

Q.—Are the vessels torpedoed, but not sunk, included in the monthly list of losses issued by the Admiralty?

A.—This list includes only ships which have been totally lost. In the early days a ship that was seriously damaged usually sank, but salvage arrangements have been so immensely improved that, according to *The Shipping World*, no fewer than 5207 vessels, aggregating 16,150,000 tons have been handled by the repair yards. No work is done on a vessel in dock which can be accomplished while afloat, and many instances are given of sunk vessels containing valuable cargoes which have been patched below the water, raised, and brought to port. From this it would seem that it is quite possible that the German submarines fire as many torpedoes into ships now as they did during the time of their most successful sinkings. In 1917 they sank 6,000,000 tons net, the equivalent of about 9,000,000 tons gross, and during that time, according to *The Shipping World*, 16,000,000 tons were damaged, but were successfully repaired.

HOW AMERICA SAVED THE ALLIES.

Amazing as it may seem, I have actually heard people grumbling at the well-earned eulogies which were heaped upon the American soldiers who took so gallant a part in the fighting at Chateau Thierry! "We have done all the hard work, the fierce fighting, have born the brunt of the day and now the Americans come along and skim off the cream!" Imagine what stupid short-sightedness, what lack of true appreciation of the real position! All the same, I have found this feeling wider spread than it ought to be, and it seems well, therefore, to tell a few plain truths now that victory in the field is ours, and the prospect of final success appears distantly possible.

The only measure which will enable us to estimate the service the Americans have rendered the Allied cause is the dire necessity of the *Entente* Powers at the time of the entry of the United States into the war. The easiest way to use this measure is to imagine what the position would have been had President Wilson not come to our rescue. The Government at Washington delayed entering the lists against Germany until the most absolute monarch in Europe had been shaken from his throne, and the people of Russia had made a strong bid to secure control of their own affairs. But whilst the coming of the revolution in Russia was at first hailed as inaugurating an era of increased effort to defeat the Central Powers it was quickly apparent that it was the beginning of the end, so far as the Muscovites were concerned, and never again did Russian armies seriously threaten to hamper Austro-German plans.

America has more than made up for Russian defection—but what if the United States had remained neutral? The German submarines would have been no less active, and, to-day, instead of being able to replace monthly sinkings by new vessels, the Allies would be launching less than 50 per cent. of the ships needed to make good losses. American ship-yards have enabled us to catch up, are well on the way to make good the serious deficit. In addition, 706,000 tons of enemy ships, sheltering in American harbours, were at once made available for Allied use. The Government at Washington also seized

528,000 tons of Dutch shipping, and chartered 266,600 tons of neutral shipping. As a direct result, therefore, of the incoming of the United States over 1,500,000 tons of shipping were secured to make good U-boat sinkings, and convey to Europe the food without which the people would have starved. Indirectly the action of the United States emboldened Brazil to hire out all the German vessels sheltering in her harbours to France, thus increasing the Allied merchant fleets by 120,000 tons. During 1917 the Admiralty admits the sinking of 6,620,000 tons by enemy action, and from January to the end of June this year the losses were 2,200,000 tons, making a total loss of 8,800,000 tons. To replace these, the utmost the British yards had been able to do was to turn out 1,926,720 tons (from January, 1917—June, 1918). Obviously had it not been for America we would have been 7,000,000 tons to the bad, and the German boast that they would starve us into submission would not have been so wide of the mark. In this brief summary of the shipping the Americans at once made available, must be added the tonnage they hustled to the Atlantic from the Great Lakes and the ships they have launched from their building yards. It does not require much perspicacity to grasp the fact that the food problem the Allies had to meet would have been insoluble had America not been able to provide the tonnage needed to convey supplies from overseas to Europe.

But, whilst the provision of ships was an absolutely necessary step towards the rescue of the Allies, there was little use in finding the tonnage if, at the same time, food supplies were not also provided. The following tale serves to illustrate the magnificent self-denial of the Americans better than pages of print. It is said that when official estimates, showing that the wheat crop of the United States last year was 7 per cent. below the average, reached Lord Rhonda, he closed his desk, with no one knows what visions of death and gloom, and with the simple comment: "The war is over and we are defeated." Possibly that story is not true, but the news amply justified him in making that comment, for what was the position? In 1914 the

wheat crop of the States was 890,000,000 bushels, of which about 80,000,000 bushels were exported as grain or flour. That is to say, less than 10 per cent. of the crop was sent overseas. If the crop was 7 per cent. down, obviously only 3 per cent. was available for export after domestic needs had been supplied. Few people believed at that time that the people of America would voluntarily go without themselves in order that Englishmen, Frenchmen and Italians might be fed. Yet that is just what they did. They entered into a solemn league and covenant not to eat wheaten flour with the result that America sent to the Allies 150,000,000 bushels after the surplus available for export had been exhausted. The arrival of this wheat enabled the Allies to tide over the crisis whilst they themselves were making preparation to grow vast quantities of grain in their own newly ploughed lands. Many of the American States abstained altogether from using flour for certain periods. Texas in two months saved enough in this way to feed the entire American army in France for a whole month. This self-denying ordinance, passed voluntarily by the people of the United States, brought the war home to all of them in a way we here in tranquil Australia cannot realise. It also saved the Allied nations from starvation.

In order to carry on her ship-building, her gun-making, her munition factories, Great Britain required huge quantities of steel, and copper, and nitrates, and other things which she has obtained from the United States, or in American ships. The first thing President Wilson was asked to do when his country ranged herself beside the Allies was to provide money to help carry on the war. In the first instance this took the form of the raising of loans in America without security to pay for Allied purchases there. Formerly American financiers had insisted that such accommodation would only be given against heavy security. They announced a list of stocks and shares they would accept, and these had to be deposited against the loan they advanced. This compelled the British Government to borrow or purchase these stocks from private owners in order to get credit in America. The position was becoming so serious that we are not surprised to find Mr. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stating that had it not

been for the generous assistance of America, the Allies would have become gravely involved, financially. For the keeper of the purse of the wealthiest of the *Entente* countries to make such an admission gives cause for wonder and greater cause for appreciation of what the Americans did to save the financial situation for the Allies.

Mastery of the air is recognised as being one of the essentials of victory, and here again the Americans have rendered sterling aid. Hitherto British and French workshops have just been able to keep pace with the German in quantity production of aeroplanes. Not until American factories begin to turn out machines can we hope for that superiority without which victory will not be ours. True there has been delay in American production, and promises made a year and more ago have not been fulfilled, but at the time Americans did not realise that they would have to fell and season whole forests of spruce, would have to import castor oil beans and devote hundreds of acres to the production of the needed lubricant oil, or dream of the hundred and one other things they had not which were required in the manufacture of planes and engines. We ought not to grumble at the delay, for Allied experts were fully alive to the impossibility of making good these too optimistic promises. But if the Americans failed to deliver aeroplanes in quantities as quickly as expected they delivered far more ships, far more men, and much more food than anyone dreamed possible a year ago. Now, however, the Liberty motor is being turned out in huge quantities, and soon thousands of American-made planes will be in France. Already they are arriving, and, ere long, they will give the Allies the superiority they need, a superiority they could never have hoped to have secured when they had only French and British factories to rely on.

But whilst American ships and American self-denial prevented the war ending in Germany's favour this year, it is the soldiers she has produced and got to France that offer the best hope for final success. When we remember that when they first entered the struggle, the Americans were told not to trouble about raising armies, but to concentrate on building ships, there is greater cause than ever to wonder at the present achieve-

ment. It was not until early this year that strong and insistent appeals began to be made to President Wilson for reinforcements in Europe. Marshal Joffre implored the Americans to send soldiers to succour sore-stricken France and reinforce her gallant but weary armies. And the Americans responded with a will. They called up more men, they enlarged their camps, they strained every nerve to get soldiers across the Atlantic. To handle the armies they speedily got to Europe; they were obliged to build huge docking accommodation at French ports, to lay hundreds of miles of railway, to send their own locomotives and rolling-stock over the Atlantic, to erect gigantic store houses, and, in fact, do in six months what had been done by Great Britain in three years.

But they got the soldiers across, they created the huge machinery needed, they made possible the offensives which first stemmed the German onrush and then threw the enemy back whence they came. Sir Robert Borden, Prime Minister of Canada, spoke quite frankly on this point. He said, "The arrival of the United States troops freed the Allied commanders from the necessity of remaining on the defensive. The victories of the past weeks would have been impossible unless the American reserves had been available." But for the arrival of over a million American Sammies in France, Marshal Foch would have had to remain inactive, would have had to leave the initiative with the enemy, who

could have massed troops and delivered further blows where they would. Had it not been for American reinforcements one trembles to think of what might have been the position to-day. To summarise this brief statement of the means by which America rescued the Allies—a statement made necessary by the foolish kind of remarks referred to at the beginning of this article:—

1. The incoming of America made available over 1,600,000 tons of shipping, and her mighty building efforts have defeated the submarine, which undefeated would have starved us into submission.

2. American wheat, meat and food supplies fed the *Entente* peoples, and saved them from starvation.

3. American money and assistance saved the Allies from grave disaster financially.

4. American aeroplanes are giving that command of the air which is necessary before victory can be won.

5. American soldiers in France saved the British and French armies from further German attack, made possible the offensives which have driven back the enemy. They, and they alone, in fact, turned the scale against the Central Powers.

When we realise what America has done, and is doing, dare we question her right to the dominant position amongst the Allies, when they assemble for the peace conference? The fact that a mighty power entirely divorced from European intrigue and unmoved by considerations of self-aggrandisement will head the Allied delegation, may help greatly to bring about an earlier peace than at the moment seems possible.

DO YOU KNOW THAT—

One pig out of every three raised in the United States is sent to the Allies?

The American Government railroad administration has approved the spending of 946,300,000 dollars (£190,000,000) on improvements, additions and betterments on U.S. railways?

At last the demand of labour in America for an eight-hour day is likely to be realised? All work done directly for the Government must conform to a law limiting hours to eight, and all direct contracts for Government work carry a clause providing for the eight-hour day.

The U.S. Government, at a cost of £24,000,000, erected two powder plants

in five months and built complete cities about them to house the workers? Nine thousand buildings were erected; 500 engineers and architects made the plans, and 35,000 men worked on the construction,

Over 65,000 expert lumbermen are exclusively engaged in America cutting spruce for use in the manufacture of aeroplanes? At the beginning of the year the output was 2,000,000 feet a month. It is now 10,000,000 feet a month, and will soon be 20,000,000 feet monthly. This gives some idea of the number of aeroplanes America intends to turn out.

In the month of May 60 per cent. of the ships finished in the United States were

built in the Great Lakes ship-yards, launched in fresh water, and sent hundreds of miles through river and canals to the Atlantic? Before winter comes and freezes these a fleet of 120 newly built ships, with a deadweight tonnage of 420,000 will have sailed through to the sea.

The cost of the construction work to provide housing for soldiers in America and buildings for the manufacture and storage of supplies for the army in America and abroad already completed or under way will be £260,000,000?

A campaign for economy with the slogan "eat everything you take" has resulted in tremendous saving in all the military camps of America? There nothing whatever is allowed to go to waste. Hair clipped from army horses and mules, formerly thrown away, realises £100 a ton. All garbage is collected and utilised, even coffee grounds are carefully hoarded.

The merchant fleet of the United States now amounts to 10,000,000 gross tons, exclusive altogether of ships employed by the army and navy for transport and other work? In 1914 the fleet amounted to 5,400,000 gross tons only. By 1920 the American merchant marine will have as great a tonnage as had the British before the war.

On the Fourth of July a total of 89 hulls were launched in the United States with a deadweight tonnage of 439,886?

The collier *Tuckahoe*, which was built in the record time of 37 days, is busily engaged in transporting coal along the American sea-board? On the Pacific coast the five vessels built in the fastest time averaged 100 days between keel laying and delivery. On the Great Lakes the average time has been 124½ days, and on the Atlantic coast 209½ days.

The school children of New York subscribed £11,000,000 to the Liberty Loan, and yet 80 per cent of the city's population is foreign born?

The farm tractors in use in the United States do the work of at least 200,000 farm labourers and 800,000 horses?

Eight hundred and twenty-five bushels of potatoes were produced from one acre in a single crop in the State of Utah? This is regarded as a world record.

Three million three hundred thousand women have registered for war work in the United States, chiefly industrial and agricultural? Over 2,000,000 were already employed.

The huge base hospital on Staten Island, New York, which has accommodation for 3000 patients, has such long corridors that orderlies use pneumatic-tired roller skates to get about? Another innovation are electric stretchers for the rapid moving of patients. The hospital covers 98 acres and cost £450,000 to build and equip. One of the corridors is a mile long.

In all of the great military camps of America efforts are being made to grow their own vegetables? In one alone 20,000 bushels of potatoes were dug.

The production of maple sugar has been greatly stimulated as a result of the sugar shortage? Fifty-two million five hundred and twelve thousand pounds were harvested during the early months of this year, the crop being 7,000,000 lbs. more than that of last year. The keeping of bees has also been much encouraged, and honey, especially in the Western States, is being generally used for sweetening purposes instead of sugar.

The building of ships is one thing, but the manning of them is another, at least 200,000 men will be needed to provide crews for the ships to be completed in the United States this year? They are being raised and trained on the same system as are the men for the navy, and will be assigned to the ships by the Shipping Board just as men are assigned by the Admiralty to British warships. This is a great innovation.

In May the British Government ordered 250,000,000 pounds of meat from American plants, and asked delivery within three weeks? Well, within that time limit the entire order was on its way overseas.

In one month 800,000 tubes of ointment to neutralise the poisonous effects of "mustard" gas were sent from America to France? It is the invention of an American chemist, and is rubbed on the body before a gas attack. A drop of "mustard" gas on the bare skin causes a serious burn.

The wages paid this year in America for helpers in the harvest fields range from 4.50 to 6.00 dollars a day (16s. to 24s.), but great numbers of volunteers have come forward, and town and city workers formed into what are known as "Twilight squads," and helping to make certain that every last bushel of grain is harvested?

THE GREATEST SHIP-BUILDER IN THE WORLD.

Those who are incessantly crying out for the internment of all Germans and the disfranchisement of all people of German ancestry, are no doubt distressed that the man who is doing more to win the war for the Allies than anyone else is not only of German parentage, but a devout Roman Catholic to boot! Charles M. Schwab is now engaged in building a gigantic merchant fleet in record-breaking time. The Allies look to him to defeat the submarines; to feed their peoples.

In a most interesting study of the Director-General which appears in *The World's Work*, Mr. Frank Parker Stockbridge attempts to explain how it is that the nation feels with "Charley" on the job, the job will be done and done well. "What," says Mr. Stockbridge, "has he done to warrant the belief that perhaps the biggest thing President Wilson has yet done was to make Mr. Schwab Director-General of the Emergency Fleet Corporation?"

There is only one answer—personality; the quality of leadership that makes men want to "work their heads off" for him; the kind of optimism that inspires everyone with whom he comes in contact with belief in himself and of his own abilities; the sort of democracy that makes the men driving rivets in a ship's keel grin and address him as "Charley"; the knowledge of human nature that makes him understand that to get the best work out of a man you must first set a mark for him to reach, and then make it worth his while to reach it.

Mr. Schwab is the fifth man in a year to take hold of the ship-building job, but everyone is convinced that he will succeed where others have failed. Mr. Edward N. Hurley, the Chairman of the United States Shipping Board, was the first to discern that leadership was needed to speed up ship-building, and it was he who commandeered Mr. Schwab. His powers of persuasion are second only to those of Mr. Schwab himself, and he used all his arts on the steel-maker to induce him to take charge.

One Tuesday morning Mr. Schwab went to Washington, called at Mr. Hurley's office, and expressing his keen appreciation of all that had been said of his ability and the confidence in him the Shipping Board had expressed, said he had made a final decision in the negative. He bowed himself out, and thought he had heard the end of it. Mr. Hurley had an ace up his sleeve, however.

That afternoon, while Mr. Schwab was in the Washington office of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, the telephone rang.

"The White House would like to speak to Mr. Schwab." The steel man took up the telephone. When he put the receiver down he said: "Boys, I guess I'm gone!"

He drove to the White House, and was away a long time. When he came back, the expression of his face told the story. He was proud and happy—prond at having been given a big job to do, and happy at having a free hand to do it. The President had convinced him that he was needed.

He is employing in this gigantic task the same means which he used to win his way up from driving stakes for an engineer to the Presidency of the United States Steel Corporation at 39, and which enabled him to build the Bethlehem Steel Corporation into the biggest ship-building concern in the world, and the greatest rival of Krupps in the manufacture of guns and armour plate. Though the most commanding personality in American industry, he is also the most genuinely democratic.

Mr. Schwab believes the bonus method is the best means of getting the best work out of every man associated with him. For years the Bethlehem Steel Corporation has been operated on the bonus system. Salaries have been merely nominal, many of the most important executives drawing only 100 dollars a week. Bonuses for good work, for increased production, for economies in operation, and for actual achievement to the benefit of the company in many other directions, have been distributed all along the line from the president, who received 1,000,000 dollars last year, down to the men in the blast furnaces. Mr. Schwab said: "It is possible to obtain the personal interest of employees through this system in a manner not heretofore obtainable in a large corporation. The use of the bonus system has been the only successful way to secure individual co-operation to the extent we have found desirable."

One of the first things he directed his attention to when he became Director-General was some means of applying the bonus system to the Government's ship-building operations. There was no public money that he could use for the purpose, so he raised it amongst his personal friends and gave much himself. But money prizes alone are not enough, and even more powerful in many instances are other ways of recognising and approving good work.

There are men who will do more for a slap on the shoulder from "Charley" Schwab than

they would do for all the money some other millionaire could offer them. He has the rare faculty of being able to slap a man on the shoulder without giving offence; his democracy is genuine; one feels and knows instinctively that it is not a pose. What in another man would be patronising, in "Charley" Schwab is merely an expression of a very real, very sincere, and all-inclusive human friendliness. It is a rare gift. It cannot be cultivated, it must be born in one; few who possess it, however, know so well how to use it to spur men on to greater things as does Mr. Schwab.

Mr. Stockbridge gives various instances of the way in which Mr. Schwab has been able to get more out of men than they themselves believed they could do. "His appointment," said Dr. Charles A. Eaton, head of the National Service section of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, "has had an effect on the workers that is inspiring. They appear to be crazy about him, and regard him as one of themselves." Mr. Stockbridge complains that it is a futile task to attempt to interview or explain Mr. Schwab. It is like reading the Bible, one gets only fundamental truths. "My policy," said Mr. Schwab, "has been to develop the man with his career still ahead of him, the man who is dependent on what he has yet to do and who realises that his future depends on himself."

There are two ways to build an organisation; one is to take a given group of men and make places for them; the other, and the way I always build an organisation, is to outline the organisation in skeleton form and then fit men into it as I can find them. The thing to be done is the important matter. And when I put a man into a position I give him the full responsibility for his particular part of the work and full authority to act in accordance with that responsibility.

The story of Mr. Schwab's trip to London in the autumn of 1914 reads like a romance. Britain had plunged into a war without men, munitions, or even an adequate idea of how to organise her resources against the Germans. The nation looked to Kitchener, and Kitchener sent for Schwab.

The steel-maker sailed on the *Olympic*, and as luck would have it, it was on this voyage that the big White Star liner, skirting the north coast of Ireland, arrived on the scene just as the *Audacious*, the first British war ship of size to fall a victim to German submarine warfare, was sinking. The crew of the *Audacious* was rescued by the *Olympic*. Mr. Schwab alone, of

all the passengers, was permitted to go ashore. He was landed in a small boat at a little fishing village on the Irish coast, seventy-five miles from Londonderry, whence a steamer was scheduled to sail that evening for Liverpool.

As he was getting on the pier at Londonderry to catch the night boat, he was stopped by an officer, who demanded his credentials. England was at the height of its spy hysteria at the time.

Mr. Schwab presented his card. No, the officer had never heard of him—but he knew a German name when he saw one! He called the captain, who demanded to see his passport. That document, however, had been left in the custody of the captain of the *Olympic*, now at anchor more than seventy-five miles away—and Kitchener was waiting. Mr. Schwab tried to explain, but the captain had never heard of him and he had his orders. Then Mr. Schwab tried persuasion. And when the Director-General starts to persuade—well, as "Uncle John" Wilson said: "If you want to keep anything Charley Schwab wants, don't let him talk to you. That's all—don't let him talk to you, or you'll find yourself walking home in a barrel."

The captain, however, was convinced that Mr. Schwab was a spy, and even when he wrote a telegram to Kitchener for the captain to despatch, the latter only would take him to Liverpool under arrest. At Liverpool, of course, everything was all right, and Mr. Schwab was rushed to London by special train.

Physically the steel king is a big man, who keeps his body in first-class working order all the time. He plays the piano unusually well, and used to sing a good deal more than he does now. He is a devout Roman Catholic, and has built two churches, one of them in the little town of Loretto, about which his personal interest has always centred. He has also provided endowments for the college of Franciscan Fathers, and a recent beneficence was the presentation to the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of a seaside house and bathing beach fully equipped.

Organised labour, or such of its leaders as do not like bonuses and "speeding up" has not always been friendly to Mr. Schwab and his companies; "uplift" advocates, who hold it the employer's duty to do more for the workers than merely to pay them well, have criticised what they have regarded as insufficient attention to the welfare of Bethlehem employees. Mr. Schwab does not believe it is good for men to be coddled, petted, or pampered. But every man who has ever worked for him—"with" him, as he puts it—knows that good work never passes unnoticed or unrewarded, and that is the principle he is applying to the building of ships for the Government.

DOMESTIC LIFE IN REVOLUTIONARY RUSSIA.

The Atlantic Monthly publishes a most interesting series of letters from an American lady, Mme. Emma Ponafidine, who many years ago married a distinguished Russian diplomat. After more than forty years of active diplomacy in the Far East, and shortly before the war, her husband settled down to the management of his estate, some 7000 acres, which had been in the family since the times of Peter the Great. This estate was situated not far from the Finnish border. M. Ponafidine had become totally blind, and the direction of the estate fell largely on the shoulders of his wife.

The first letter is dated July 9th, 1917, the last December 1st of the same year. It is impossible to tell in brief compass the story unfolded by these human documents. A few extracts, however, give some idea of the terrible conditions encountered by all property owners in Russia. We cannot wonder, indeed, that they welcome the coming of any force which re-established law and order. Mme. Ponafidine tells of the way in which the peasants abused their power. "All the crops excepting as much hay as will carry us through the winter, *by their estimate*, were taken, the price fixed, but the money confiscated. As all the burden of the war falls on the peasants, the gentry cannot be permitted to get any profit." The fields left for the use of the family were valued, and they were obliged to pay rent for their own land. Then it was claimed that they had more horses than required, the people having the right to confiscate the extra ones gratis.

When we told the use to which each horse was put and proved that in the winter and ploughing season we found we had not enough, every peasant present—though all knew the fact, and most had worked for us, when fifteen to eighteen horses a day worked—swore that never were more than six horses harnessed in Bortniki. I turned to one and another by name, and said, "Have you a conscience and a God? Answer me truly if, the year around, fifteen to eighteen are not too few?"

And they all in chorus replied, "She lies, she lies; they never use more than six; take them from her!"

And not a man was there whose wounds, or those of his household, or horse or cow, I had not treated, and whom we had not helped,

sick or poor, and given boards for coffins, or timber to help build, if a fire came.

She goes on, "We are forbidden to sell more cattle, and they have not left us enough to feed them. Horses I think we can sell, but we won't get the money. Altogether we and all our kind are being hunted like rats. Education is for nothing. New spelling has been ordered so that our chiefs won't be illiterate. . . . The Post is suffering now like every other department of our poor country. Letters are often twenty days on the way. . . . The local civil commissariat department insisted that we gather in and thresh our rye as soon as possible, and give all we can for seed, offering a price far less than it cost us to raise it. When a protest was made, the reply very politely couched was, 'If you give it voluntarily we pay four roubles (the price peasants are selling for is eight to ten roubles); if not we shall requisition it at 2.60 roubles.'" She tells of securing two German prisoners to work in the fields, but found them quite useless at first, and thus describes the efforts of one of them, a Berlin shopkeeper, to make a horse go.

The poor fellow tried patting and coaxing in German, which the horse did not understand. Even pushing and pulling. He not only did not beat him, but, whenever he got up courage enough to strike him with the reins, he carefully patted the spot he had hurt! It was one of the funniest sights I ever saw, and I stood and laughed unseen for some time before I went to his rescue—the big, spectacled, helpless fellow!

She mentions that in the towns two pounds of cereal and fifty of wheat flour are given per month to children under five. "We are all in rags," she says, "for not a yard of material can we get, but the workers are doing very well. Mill hands and day labourers are demanding from twenty to thirty roubles a day, eight hours' work, and Sunday and one other day off." Shoes in September were selling for 160 roubles per pair; they formerly cost twelve. Eggs which at that season should be 17 kopeks for 10 were 3 roubles.

In many places the peasants won't let the squires sell an egg, or a pound of butter. Anarchy reigns everywhere, and I do not see where help can come from for years. All our class would leave if they could, but they cannot. They are not allowed to take money with them nor transfer abroad their capital.

The method of election for the local Zemnestra is certainly effective. There were four lists of candidates—peasants, clergy, shopkeepers and nobles. A commissary came down from the Central Government and informed the ignorant people that they must put four crosses opposite the peasant's list. This they did. The peasants appear to have wantonly destroyed next year's rye and clover. "They say openly they will rifle our granaries and house. . . . Nothing cuts me so much as the destruction of the dairy. I worked so hard to get it as nearly perfect as possible, and could support the family now had I back my cows. Butter that was sold before the war for fifteen to sixteen roubles a pound I could now sell for 220 roubles. . . . Our apples were stolen while green, or we should have had a good supply for the winter. . . . All the peasants are well supplied with money. The war has so raised the price of labour that the peasants and working class get far more than for brain work."

On returning to her house one day she found the yard full of women with bags. "The peasants had heard that we had been selling flour and sending it in boats by night. They went over to our local committee and warned them that they would loot us and burn us out."

I told them that I was deeply cut that such a false charge should be laid to us; that since the orders given us, we had faithfully kept from selling a pound; and they were at liberty to search the place as the people said we had hidden grain.

I myself went everywhere with them, showing them every place from attics to cellars, insisting on opening trunks, etc. When they went through our empty cellar and store-room, and saw the lack of everything, they were amazed.

After weighing all our provisions and calculating how much we would need (at three pounds of cereals a day for 22 persons and one pound of bread a day), they declared we could spare nothing; but the women raised such a terrible row and were so menacing, that the whole delegation came in to consult with us.

Finally it was decided to give them twelve poods, and the women then said

that they would come back again later for more. "If she gives it willingly, we won't touch her, but if she does not do it willingly, we will take it, kill them all, and burn down the whole place." Next day one of the women who had been loudest in her threats brought her sick child to Mme. Ponafidine, with many low bows and sweet words. "I did what I could for the baby, and neither of us alluded to the past. . . . We are being overrun with wolves. A seventeen-year-old girl was eaten near Pakrowsky. . . . We have now, according to this month's report, 270,000 in the Government of Twer, who have no bread, and who are dependent upon the miserable allowance of five pounds per month. If help does not come from the United States or somewhere, I see nothing but death before us all. Even if they do not rob us we cannot hold out longer than the last of April. We are not allowed to sell anything from the estate, and the peasants are ordered to watch us, and have just come to write down all our property."

All day the boys and I worked with them and had to sit at dinner and entertain them! They wrote down even our personal effects, to the last table, chair, and bed, which by the laws of Russia are not liable to be seized, even for debt. Then we were made to sign a paper that we would not sell, or take out of the place, a thing. If we leave to-morrow, we cannot take a pillow or quilt! We cannot kill a chicken or calf for our own use, without going to the committee for leave. When we told them that we may have to diminish still more for want of fodder, they said they would not permit it, but would force us to buy hay. When I said we could not afford it, they smiled and said they would make us find the means. They reproached us very much for having sold horses last year; but we told them we were forced to do it.

The great thing she feared was the demobilisation of the armies and the return of the men. Writing on December 1st she says:—

As the lake freezes and the high passes, I fear that we shall be eaten out of house and home. Yesterday eleven soldiers passed and demanded dinner. To-day I fed three, and as yet few can pass, as the ice is not strong.

MAKING AMMUNITION FROM THE AIR.

Had it not been for Dr. Haber, it is certain that Germany would have been unable to continue the war after the first year. Haber invented the process, bearing his name, which produces ammonia

when hydrogen and nitrogen are directly combined under high pressure. Nitrogen is one of the most important factors in war making, for it is used in some form or another in every variety of

powder. It figures in all the most destructive explosive agencies produced. Before the war, though, practically all the nitrogen required for these purposes was obtained from the huge nitrate deposits in Chile. Not only were these nitrates used for the making of gun-powder and high explosives, but they were also utilised in the fields, and proved to be the best fertiliser available.

Germany was one of the greatest users of Chile nitrates and was entirely dependent on that source for the nitric acids she needed for making her explosives and for the fertilisers which made her soil so productive. In order to defend her frontiers she had to have immense supplies of powder; in order to feed her people she was obliged to keep her soil fertile. Yet the British blockade absolutely prevented any nitrates from Chile reaching Germany. Had it been impossible to secure nitrogen in any other way, German resistance would have collapsed, the German people would have starved. But the Teutonic chemists at once set to work to develop and improve the methods which had already been used for extracting nitrogen from the air around us. Four-fifths of the air is nitrogen and one-fifth oxygen. Obviously there were unlimited supplies if only means could be discovered for inducing the nitrogen to separate from the oxygen.

There are two main methods of obtaining the nitrogen from the air—the first, by burning the air by means of the electric arc, and the second by the oxidation of ammonia, most of this ammonia, however, being also obtained from the air by several different processes, and in some cases by combination of air and water. The first process requires large quantities of electric power at very low cost of production, and is therefore only practicable in Norway and other places where cheap water power is easily avail-

able. Writing in *The Americans* on the subject, Mr. O. P. Austin says:—

Ammonia, which is readily transformed into nitric acid, is produced by several different processes—(1) the "Haber" process in which nitrogen and hydrogen are directly combined under high pressure to form ammonia; (2) the "cyanamid" process, by which carbon and lime are heated in an electrical furnace to form calcium carbide, which is then treated with pure nitrogen from the air to form cyanamid, which is then hydrolized by steam to produce ammonia; (3) ammonia produced as a by-product of the, so-called "by-product coke ovens," used in making coke from bituminous coal; (4) by the "cyanide" process not yet commercially developed, but carrying great promise of cheap nitrogen, this process embracing the direct combination of nitrogen, carbon and sodium to form sodium nitrate by heating together an intimate mixture of carbon, soda ash and nitrogen in the presence of finely divided iron. Still another process has recently been developed in the United States by the General Chemical Co., and promises to produce ammonia by the synthetic process through the direct combination of nitrogen and hydrogen at a much lower pressure than the Haber process.

Before the war Germany imported 700,000 tons of nitrate of soda from Chile. France about 350,000, Belgium, for herself and neighbours, 350,000, Great Britain 150,000, the remainder of Europe about 300,000 tons. Germany is now said to have produced 370,000 tons of nitric acid in 1917, as against 100,000 tons in 1915. As it takes five tons of the Chile nitrates to produce one ton of nitric acid this would suggest that Germany's 1917 production of nitrates from artificial sources would be the equivalent of about 2,000,000 tons of Chile nitrate, or about three times as much as she was accustomed to import from Chile when she was exclusively dependent upon that source for her nitric acid and soil foods. Clearly in future Germany will be entirely independent of other countries so far as nitrates are concerned, may not improbably begin exporting these to other countries who have not developed the necessary machinery for extracting them from the air. What are the Allies doing in the matter?

DYE-MAKING AFTER THE WAR.

A good deal is said about the terrible things that are going to happen to Germany after the war, and especially are we regaled with statements as to the determination of the Allied peoples never again to trade with Germany, but little

thought is given to the resultant effect upon ourselves. We are constantly assured of one thing above all others—namely, that never again will Germany be allowed to control the dye trade of the world as she did in pre-war days.

But talking alone will never deprive the Germans of their pre-eminent position in the manufacture and distribution of synthetic dyes, nor will tariffs and prohibitions suffice to replace German dye with British or American unless the dye made in these Allied countries is as good and as cheap as that which comes from German factories.

Mr. Arthur Finch has a most interesting article upon the subject of British dyes and oversea trade in the *Financial Review of Reviews*. He says that although colour for dyeing represents only between 1 and 2 per cent. of the value of the goods produced by British textile houses, if this colour were not available the textile export trade, valued at approximately £200,000,000, would be brought to a standstill, and would result in the unemployment of millions of cotton and woollen operatives. To-day, of course, there is no competition, and the demand for dyes is very great, and remains unsatisfied. The war, will not, however, last for ever.

To those who know the dyers, however patriotic they may be politically, they are not sentimentalists in business. If British dye-stuff manufacturers cannot produce pure dyes (allowing, of course, for the general practice of "reduction")—the fastness of which can be relied upon at rates which will bear comparison with the standardised dyes of the German chemical combinations of dye-stuff manufacturers in such colours, among others, as sulphur blacks and alizarine, benzo purpurine, and direct cotton blues, etc. (I am well aware that there are variations in standards; but all are determined by competitive prices)—then Germany by some means or other will endeavour to supply the need. Or perhaps the Lancashire and Yorkshire cotton spinners and woollen weavers respectively, faced with the competition of America, Japan, and Germany, will send their materials to the market undyed rather than lose the market because of weakness or unreliability in fastness of the British dyers' products.

The prohibition of German dyes concerns the distributor very little. So long as he can obtain the required coloured fabric or material he is satisfied. A rise in prices affects him greatly.

This will be especially the case after the war, when competition resumes its sway in industry. The distributor—faced as he is to-day with the crudities of such colourings as go by the name of red, blue, and green, not to mention the absence of numberless beautiful shades which were obtainable in pre-war days, and the innumerable complaints of his customers, who after the war may have the opportunity of seeing better productions made by other countries using the German dyes, as to lack of fastness of the dyes (for which, of

course, in some cases the manufacturer is not entirely responsible, but which is due to the adulteration going on to-day)—is bound to consider whether all is well with the new British productions.

Mr. Finch is very dubious over the arrangements which are being made by British manufacturers to meet German competition. To begin with, these firms represent not more than three or four millions sterling of capital, as against the pre-war German capitalisation of about £50,000,000. The largest firm in Germany has no fewer than 200 highly trained chemists and chemical engineers, against the English factory's six or seven. The German Government has wisely held back its chemists from the fighting army, and in their well equipped laboratories hosts of patient, university-trained technological chemists and chemical engineers are engaged in the task of improving and lessening the costs of the process of manufacture in the factories of Germany. We hear, says Mr. Finch, much about the discovery of new dye stuffs, and such announcements are usually the signal for industrialist shouts of acclamation, but as a matter of fact the only problem that matters in the dye industry is the question of cost and quality. Numbers of new dye stuffs are produced year in and year out in the German artificial dye stuffs factories' laboratories, but even if the colour found is what the public wants, that is only the beginning of the business. To illustrate the wonderful organisation and specialisation of German dye firms he quotes what Lord Moulton said at the Manchester Town Hall in 1914.

When I was in Switzerland a short time ago I made the acquaintance of a German chemist. Being interested in chemistry, I tried discussing inorganic chemistry with him, but he said, "No, no! I do not understand inorganic but only organic chemistry," so I attempted to discuss this branch, and he said the only branch of organic chemistry he knew was that of coal-tar with relation to dyes. I happened to know something about a certain yellow got from coal-tar, so I mentioned this to him, but he said, "Yellow is not my colour; I only understand blue." I at last thought I had some ground here for discussion, so I mentioned a certain methane blue. He said he did not understand methane blue as he was working on ethene blue.

Here, he says, is the parting of the ways. Despite the untiring efforts of leaders in organic chemistry nothing has been done to attract large numbers of

men possessed of initiative and imagination to the universities for purely industrial purposes. Our universities, he says, are depleted of suitable students, and, if there is a dearth of students, who is to carry out research? Only a highly trained university man, steeped in a knowledge of applied chemistry, can do this original investigation. Some good work has been done at Leeds and in the university laboratories, but in the aggregate little has been achieved.

The dog-in-the-manger attitude is still on top. Whilst it is in reality a matter of life and death for the small dye-stuff makers to combine and co-ordinate, as did the German firms, for common scientific and economic ends, the policy of inaction in this respect still prevails. In spite of the warnings of our eminent scientific and economic experts, "wait and see" still holds as the watchword, whilst the German dye syndicates are planning their future campaign in collaboration with the technical high schools and Universities, the latter now giving dozens of courses in international trade organisation to crowds of students, whilst our Universities are being given over to other than educational work.

He asserts that if economic unification, enabling resources to be pooled, is resisted the death knell of the dye industry in Great Britain will be sounded. If the Government realises the essential importance of the industry

it should at once open the universities again for serious scientific work by enabling young students in applied chemistry to continue their studies if they show a real aptitude, and by demobilising from the army those who were so trained.

Otherwise, another "war industry," employing some of the finest brains in the country, will find an early grave, on which the flowers of the German dye combinations will grow profusely, and perhaps ultimately blot it out of entire recognition.

In describing the growth of the dye industry Mr. Finch says that William Morris was largely responsible for the great advance made in the education of the people to a better appreciation of rich and beautiful colour effects.

His influence has been world-wide, and has resulted in the resuscitation of the ebbing life of British design. Of this epoch-making achievement the rising and far-seeing German manufacturer was not slow to take advantage; but in all justice, it must be said that he gave employment to many of our best designers at highly remunerative rates, whilst British manufacturers, with their same unlightened attitude towards technological chemists, either ignored or offered them prices for completed designs (that is to say, ready to put on the rollers) worth little more than the combined weekly income of a cotton operative and his wife.

KEEPING THE COUNTRY GOING.

What are French women doing? asks Constance E. Maud, in *The Nineteenth Century*. "They are keeping the country going," said an Englishman living in France, and the verdict of their own countrymen is unanimously the same. Yet how few people know this. Says Miss Maud:—

In spite of the past three and a-half momentous years revealing of necessity something of the character of the two great Allies to one another and thereby promoting much cordial friendliness, it remains an undeniable fact that English and French have very little real knowledge and understanding of each other. As a people we are still curiously ignorant of the part each nation is enacting in the world's great drama, one reason undoubtedly being that we are both so absorbed in our own overwhelming affairs as to have little time to concern ourselves with anything else; another, that of systematic propaganda setting forth clearly what is being done by the men and women of each nation there has until recently been none effective enough to reach the public, either in Britain or France. And it is indisputable that even between such good friends as the British and their French Allies much friction and misunderstanding could

have been avoided had they known more of each other's great undertakings. Did Englishwomen know, for instance, what the women of France are really doing for their country we should hear less criticism of imperfectly equipped French hospitals and we should never hear that oft-repeated question, "What are Frenchwomen doing?" with the added, "I'm sure I don't know."

When the men were mobilised in 1914 women of all ranks and of every occupation rose up and responded to the Prime Minister's appeal with a burst of patriotic enthusiasm, and an ardent desire to serve. To take up whatever kind of task the man had to lay down to go to the war became the bounden duty of the French woman.

It is one for which she is always partially prepared by her custom of sharing the life of her menkind in a daily comradeship quite unknown in any rank of life in England. For the Frenchwoman not only takes part in her husband's recreations—the British workman's "bean-feast" has no equivalent in France—but she shares his business life, counsels him in his enterprises, is conversant of *les affaires*, and more often than not in small households,

shops, and cafes, she keeps the accounts and holds the purse. Also in all agricultural life, as Millet's pictures have made familiar to English eyes, she shares the daily toil, man and woman sowing and reaping side by side in the fields, the vineyards, the orchards of their beloved land.

The war of 1870 showed Frenchwomen their heart-rending helplessness and ignorance, due to lack of training and organisation, and they determined on the spot to remedy this.

Long before the supreme hour struck in 1914 this Society numbered its thousands in every province, and the three main branches were doing splendid, efficient work, not only among the wounded and sick of the army at home and wherever French troops were stationed abroad, but also in going to the assistance of others at war, and the victims in catastrophes such as the earthquake in Sicily, or epidemic in Italy.

For many years past it had been a general custom for young women and girls of the educated classes to attend a course of Croix Rouge lectures and go through a practical training, often of a very thorough description, concluding with a stiff examination in order to obtain the certificate of the Society. In such numbers had the young women of France thus prepared themselves, it would almost seem as if they had been prompted by some intuitive sense, some overshadowing of coming events. They formed at once a nucleus capable of indefinite expansion. At the call thousands more joined up for training, while others, who had retired, offered themselves as teachers and organisers of ambulances. Already in 1916 the numbers of hospitals organised and maintained by the three great branches of the Croix Rouge had grown to about 1800, and the military hospitals and Homes where the Croix Rouge matrons and nurses give their services are now too numerous to count, increasing as they are daily with the needs of the army. This war service of the women is "benevole," namely, unpaid, a free gift to the State, the only cases of payment being a small grant from the Society itself to those of its members who, being accustomed to live at home, would otherwise be unable to afford, year after year, the expenses entailed, which are often considerable.

The *Croix Rouge* hospitals are equipped with a care and comfort not to be found in the big French Military Hospitals. The nurses, the nuns, the *souffragettes* have all worked magnificently, whilst the women of France have arisen in their strength to combat the internal foes of the people—drink, vice and child mortality.

Recognising the terrible menace of the growing evil of alcohol, of special danger to a nation at war, not only to the army and munition workers but to the now doubly precious lives of the coming generation, the women of France inaugurated a vigorous campaign, united under the banners of the "Conseil National des Femmes" and the great Woman

Suffrage Unions, "Federation Nationale," "Alliance Nationale," and "L'Union Francaise." They held meetings all over France, got up petitions, and published pamphlets giving statistics. In April, 1915, they held a great meeting at the Sorbonne, which had an unprecedented success. The nation was roused and the military authorities became acutely awake to the grave peril. With their co-operation and that of influential public men of the medical and scientific world, pressure was brought to bear upon the Government, and certain measures passed controlling liquor traffic and forbidding absinthe. Much more would have been achieved, but for the same powerful influences exerted by vested interest as prevent effective liquor control in this country.

Another sphere of usefulness was found in the *Ateliers* or workshops attached to military hospitals. These were started by a French woman, Mme. Renee Viviani, at the beginning of the war to teach convalescent maimed, blind and disfigured men some trade. This not only prepares them for the future struggle, but keeps them happily employed instead of wasting time pending discharge from the army. Women do splendid work in these *Ateliers*.

Frenchwomen have always worked with special zeal for the children. The war has quickened their efforts, and the care of the orphans of the army has been another activity in which they are taking an important part. It would be difficult at this moment to find a French orphan of the war unprovided for.

But above all, the women of France have kept the country going as farmers and agricultural labourers. Fields were ploughed and sown, crops were reaped, stock was raised, and the ordinary work of the farms went on uninterrupted, thanks to the devoted women who, despite weariness and hardship, "carried on." Much work is done by women in the stricken villages round which has swept the tide of war, and amongst the refugees from the occupied districts.

The finding of lost relatives being too vast an undertaking for any State department it was taken over by the National Council of Frenchwomen, who employ 650 people at the head office in Paris to work in connection with the Prefets of the Provinces and the feminist societies in every department of France. The work is so admirably organised that already in the year 1915 as many as 400,000 investigations had been taken up, and no fewer than 50,000 had proved successful. The office is flooded with letters overflowing with gratitude for this humane work.

As in England women work strenuously in munition factories, men being only used for work women cannot possibly do.



THE PRETTY LADY.*

In Mr. Arnold Bennett, it is convenient to say, there are two seams of personality. From the more difficult seam he has extracted his masterpieces. In those few volumes, subdued, yet rich and varied, he has exhibited a power of keeping his sensations inside the frame of permanent human relationships and sympathies. He has taken the commonest of themes—brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, aunts and uncles—and to them he has given full yet beautifully measured consideration, throwing his account of them with that plenitude of detail which is never successful unless penetrated with emotion. In regard to everything that concerns those domiciliary themes Mr. Bennett has been master. If one thinks of them as material to be matured, few gestations have been so perfect as his gestation of the philistine *Five Towns*.

But there is another Mr. Bennett, a Mr. Bennett, whose capacity for sensation singularly outruns his capacity for emotion, a cheaper and more vivacious Mr. Bennett who has left the Philistia that nourished him to strut in Paris and London. This second Mr. Bennett is a much more flashing person, but where in the *Five Towns* he was truly a man of the world, in the world he is essentially a man of the *Five Towns*. This is not his intention. All aware inside of the deficiencies that are native to philistine England and to himself, Mr. Bennett's pride requires a high attitude, and he quickly affects the airs of what he considers "connoisseurship" and fastidiousness, and he takes the vengeance of ostentation on the world that reproves his uneasiness. This gaucherie is only important because it deranges Mr. Bennett's sympathies. Where he is thoroughly at home an extraordinary degree

of sympathy emanates from him. Where he is not sure of himself, his vanity and self-consciousness impede him and he becomes extremely anxious to show that he is "initiated" and "understands life." The real man, the Wordsworthian Englishman in him, is only accessible when experience has mellowed him and assured him that he is in no way absurd.

In *The Pretty Lady*, Mr. Bennett is more assured about London than heretofore, but on the whole it is rather a bad assurance. There are frequent passages so finished and lustrous that Mr. Wells in all his glory has scarcely excelled them, but the totality of the book is inferior. The brightness of the surface, however, is stabbing. How is a novelist to give prompt effectiveness to the moral chaos of the war? Mr. Bennett understands England well enough to know that nothing could so instantaneously mark a change in the whole tone of life as the instalment of a prostitute at the centre of interest, so quite coolly and deliberately he focuses the British institution of the music-hall promenade, and from that market of sexuality he takes a French cocotte and he places her at the heart of his story. The significance of this choice is its definite relation to the war. The leave-train from the front brings the drunken officer to her, and it is she who dresses the officer hurriedly to rush him back to France. Her neighbour is a "Russian" cocotte just back from the Irish rebellion—the discarded companion of a member of the Irish administration, now linked up with a colonel. The "night clubs" attract others, youths back from Suvla, and elderly men home for a week-end, men who have done their duty by their relatives and are now "on the loose." Mr. Bennett's frankness about fornication, the Londoner's acceptance of unlimited fornication as the concomitant of war,

*"The Pretty Lady," by Arnold Bennett. Cassell and Co.; 5/-.

is enough in itself to upset the pieties of the old order; but in addition to this disclosure of "the pretty lady" as a much-needed consolatrix, there are the personages of Lady Queenie Paulle and Concepcion Iquist, "super-celebrated" pursuers of sensation up to and beyond the ordinary limits. The shadows cast by the monde and the demi-monde interlace and entangle in this novel. The link to its three conspicuous women is a well-off bachelor of nearly fifty. A sensible, substantial Englishman, he is romantic enough to give himself to war-work once the implications of the war reach him; and is matter-of-fact enough to accept from the French girl, Christine, the voluptuous girlishness that his fifty-year nature enjoys.

By letting down the barriers of respectability, Mr. Bennett is enabled to represent in full measure the torrent of his sensations from the war. To him the war is more than a political exigency. It is something that has come out of the lairs of human nature—a force stronger than all the civilised restraints from which it has plunged forward, slaving and panting. "The war was growing," his hero reflects, "or the sense of its measureless scope was growing. It had sprung, not out of this crime or that, but out of the secret invisible roots of humanity, and it was widening to the limits of evolution itself. It transcended judgment. It defied conclusions and rendered equally impossible both hope and despair. . . . The supreme lesson of the war was its revelation of what human nature actually was." This is a candor quite different from the candor of statesmen, and by taking three women on the edges of class—the cocotte, the spoiled and reckless aristocratic girl, the adventurous, masculine woman with starved emotions—Mr. Bennett adds to the revelation, shows how tremendously the war has registered on personal conduct, and on no conduct so illustrative as sex-conduct.

Up to a certain point it is done brilliantly. The material that the war has poured in on Mr. Bennett he has manipulated with amazing skill. It is not merely that he narrates a conversation

at the club with a new masculinity, or describes a State funeral or an air-raid or an inquest with superlative economy and force. He gives also a most vigorous and sardonic version of the vulgar fashionableness of war-work, the "vicious foolery of government departments," the bathos of war-benefits and pageants and bazaars, the hysterical efficiency of women's contribution to making munitions, on the Clyde. There are, in addition, bits of humanity such as the officer giving the prostitute his mascot, the kind of naivete that is so revelatory. Mr. Bennett is munificent in *The Pretty Lady*, and his terseness was never so effective.

But, interesting as it is to everyone to read about prostitution, I do not think that Christine's fate really engaged Mr. Bennett. He says, in effect, "See! I know the inmost secrets of this young thing. I read her like a book." All too visibly he licks his chops in the delight of possessing such insight. Her Catholicism, in particular, he rejoices to reveal. But just as he calls the Blessed Virgin a "goddess" and so misses the essence of devotion to the *Mother of God*, so he exhibits a pretentious smartness in much of his account of women throughout. "Lady Queenie Paulle entered rather hurriedly, filling the room with a distinguished scent. . . . Lady Queenie obviously had what is called 'race.'" Discernments like these remind one of *The Duchess*. Christine's mysticism and Lady Queenie's "race" are part of Mr. Bennett's paraphernalia. His real purpose is to project the sensations that the war has loaded on him, not to develop or reveal these characters.

The inept ending of *The Pretty Lady* discloses the poverty on this side of Mr. Bennett's inspiration. He has found little in Queenie or Christine or Concepcion or G. J. Hoape, but admirable puppets for his present game. The game, however, is a thrilling one. It is to preserve the sensations of 1914-1917. And if Mr. Bennett had not himself shown the artistic superiority of possessing personalities rather than sensations, his novel might be warmly praised. F.H.

The Winds of Chance

By REX BEACH.

Author of "The Barrier," "The Iron Trail," "The Ne'er-do-well," "The Silver Horde," etc.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

"**W**AL, w'at I tol' you?" 'Poleon Doret exclaimed cheerfully. "Me, I'm cut off for poor man. If one dose Eldorado millionaire give me his pay-dump all de gold disappear biffore I get him in de sluice box. Some people is born Jonah." Despite this melancholy announcement 'Poleon was far from depressed. On the contrary, he beamed like a boy, and his eyes were sparkling with the joy of again beholding his "sister."

He had returned from the hills late this evening, and now he had come to fetch Rouletta from her work. This was his first opportunity for a word with her alone.

The girl was not unmoved by his tale of blighted expectations; she refused, nevertheless, to accept it as conclusive. "Nonsense!" she said briskly. "You know very well you haven't prospected your claim for what it's worth. You haven't had time."

"I don' got to prospec' him," 'Poleon asserted. "Dat's good t'ing 'bout dat claim. Some Swede fellers above me cross-cut de whole dam' creek an' don' fin' so much as one colour. Sapre! Dat's fonnny creek. She ain't got no gravel." The speaker threw back his head and laughed heartily. "It's fac'! I 'scover de only creek on all the Yukon wit'out gravel. Muck! Twenty feet of solid frozen muck! It's lucky I stake on soch bum place, eh? S'pose all winter I dig an' don' fin' 'im out?"

For a moment Rouletta remained silent, then she said wearily: "Everything is all wrong, all upside down, isn't it? The McCaskeys' struck pay, so did Tom and Jerry. But you—Why, in all your years in this country you've never found anything. Where's the justice—?"

"No, no! I fin' somet'ing more better as dem feller. I fin' a sister; I fin' you. By Gar! I don' trade you for t'ousan'

pay streak!" Lowering his voice 'Poleon said earnestly, "I don' know how much I love you, ma soeur, until I go 'way an' t'ink 'bout it."

Rouletta smiled mistily and touched the big fellow's hand, whereupon he continued;

"All dese year I look in de mos' likely spot for gold, an' don' fin' him. Wal, I mak' change. I don' look in no more creek bottom; I'm goin' hit de high spot."

Reproachfully the girl exclaimed: "You promised me to cut that out."

With a grin the woodman reassured her; "No, no! I mean I'm goin' dig on top de mountains."

"Not—really? Why 'Poleon, gold is heavy. It sinks. It's deep down in the creekbeds."

"It sink, sure 'nough," he nodded, "but where it sink from, eh? I don' lak livin' in low place anyhow—you don' see not'in. Me, I mus' have good view."

"What are you driving at?"

"I tell you. Long tam ago I know old miner. He's forever talk 'bout high bars, old reever bed an' soch t'ing. We call him 'High Bar.' He mak' fonnny story 'bout reever dat used to was on top de mountain. By Golly, I laugh at him! But w'at you t'ink? I'm crossin' dose hill 'bove Eldorado an' I see place where dose miner is shoot dry timber down into de gulch. Dose log have dig up de snow an' I fin'—What?" Impressively the speaker whispered one word, "*Gravel.*"

Much to his dissatisfaction Rouletta remained impassive in the face of this startling announcement. Vaguely she inquired, "What of it? There's gravel everywhere. What you want is gold—"

"Mon Dieu!" 'Poleon lifted his hands in despair. "You're worse as cheechako. Where gravel is dere you fin' gold, ain't you?"

"Why—not always."

With a shrug the woodman agreed.

"Of course, not always, but—"

"On top of a hill?"

"De tip top."

"How perfectly absurd! How could gold run up hill?"

"I don' know," the other confessed. "But for dat matter how she run down hill? She ain't got no legs. I s'pose de book h'explain it somehow. Wal! I stake two claim—one for you, one for me. It's dandy place for cabin! You look forty mile from dat spot. Mak' you feel jus' lak bird on top of high tree. Dere's plenty dry wood, too, an' down below is de Forks—nice town wit' saloon an' eatin' place. You can hear de chopin' an' de win'lass creakin' and smell de smoke. It's fine place for singin' songs up dere."

"'Poleon!" Roulette tried to look her sternest. "You're a great overgrown boy. You can't stick to anything. You're merely lonesome and you want to get in where the people are."

"Lonesome! Don' I live lak bear when I'm trappin'? Some winter I don' see nobody in de least."

"Probably I made a mistake in bringing you down here to Dawson," the girl continued meditatively. "You were doing well up the river, and you were happy. Here you spend your money, you gamble, you drink—the town is spoiling you just as it is spoiling the others."

"Um-m! Mebbe so!" the man confessed. "Never I felt lak I do lately. If I don' come in town to-day I swell up an' bus'. I'm full of t'ing I can't say."

"Go to work somewhere."

"For wages? Me?" Doret shook his head positively. "I try him once—cookin' for gang of rough-neck'—but I mak' joke an' I'm fire'. Dem feller kick 'bout my grub an' it mak' me mad, so one day I sharpen all de table knife. I put keen edge on dem—lak razor." The speaker showed his white teeth in a flashing smile. "Dat's meanes' trick ever I play. Sapre! Dem feller cut deir mouth so fast dey mos' die of bleedin'. No, I ain't hired-man for no-body. I mus' be free."

"Very well," Roulette sighed resignedly. "I won't scold you, for—I'm too glad to see you." Affectionately she squeezed his arm whereupon he beamed again in the frankest delight. "Now

then we'll have supper and you can take me home."

The Rialto was crowded with its usual midnight throng; there was the hubbub of loud voices and the ebb-and-flow of laughter. From midway of the gambling hall rose the noisy exhortations of some amateur gamester who was breathing upon his dice and pleading earnestly, feelingly with "Little Joe"; from the theatre issued the strains of a sentimental ballad. As Roulette and her companion edged their way towards the lunch counter in the next room, they were intercepted by the Snowbird whose mighty labours had also ended.

"All aboard for the big cats," the latter announced. "Mocha's buttoned up in a stud-game where he dassen't turn his head to spit. He's good for all night, but I'm on the job."

"I'm having supper with 'Poleon," Roulette told him.

The Snowbird paused in dismay. "Say! You can't run out on a pal," he protested. "You got to O.K. my vittles or they won't harmonise."

"But 'Poleon has just come in from the creeks and we've a lot to talk about."

"Won't it keep? I never seen talk spoil over night." When Roulette smilingly shook her head Mr. Ryan dangled a tempting bait before her. "I got a swell fairy story for you. I bet you'd eat it up. It's like this: Once upon a time there was a beautiful Princess named Roulette and she lived in an old castle all covered with ivy. It was smothered up in them vines till you'd vamp right by and never see it. Along came a busted Prince who had been spending his vacation and some perfectly good ten dollar bills in the next county that you could scarcely tell from the real thing. He was takin' it afoot, on account of the jailer's daughter who had slipped him a file along with his laundry, but she hadn't thought to put in any lunch. See? Well, it's a story of how this here hungry Prince et the greens off of the castle and discovered the sleepin' Princess. It's a knock-out. I bet you'd like it."

"I'm sure I would," Roulette agreed. "Save it for to-morrow night."

The Snowbird was reluctant in yielding; he eyed 'Poleon darkly and there was both resentment and suspicion in his

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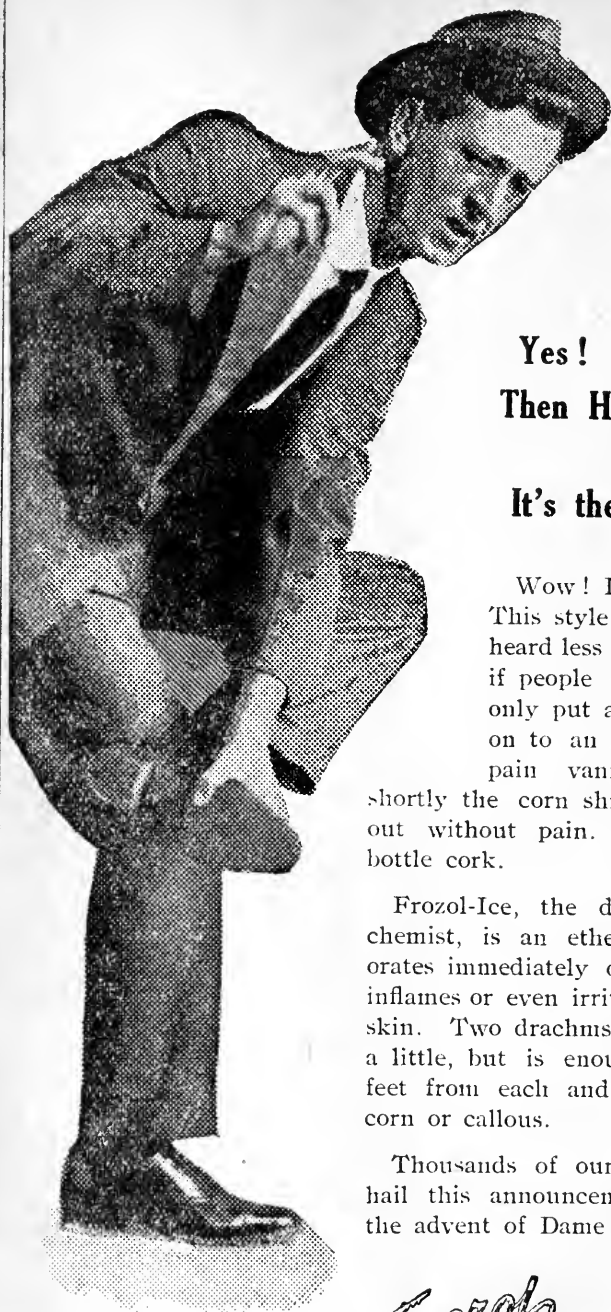


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sombre glance when he finally turned away.

Not until Roulette and her companion were perched upon their high stools at the oil-cloth covered lunch counter did the latter speak; then he inquired with a frown: "Tell me, is any dese feller mak' love on you, ma soeur?"

Why no! They're perfectly splendid, like you. Why the terrible black look?"

"Gamblers! Sure t'ing guys! Boosters! Bah! Better dey lef' you alone, dat's all. You're nice gal; too nice for dem feller."

Roulette smiled mirthlessly; there was an expression in her eyes that the woodman had never seen. "Too nice!" That's almost funny when you think about it. What sort of men would make love to me if not—gamblers, fellows like Ryan?"

'Poleon breathed an exclamation of astonishment at this assertion. "W'at you sayin'?" he cried. "If dat loafer mak' fresh talk wit' you I—pull him in two piece wit' dese fingers. Dere's plenty good man. I—you—" He paused uncertainly, then his tone changed to one of appeal. "You won't marry wit' nobody, eh? Promise me dat."

"That's an easy promise, under the circumstances."

"Bien! I never t'ink 'bout you gettin' married. By Gosh dat's fierce t'ing, for sure! W'at I'll do if—?" 'Poleon shook his massive shoulders as if to rid himself of such unwelcome speculations.

"No danger!" Roulette's crooked smile did not go unnoticed. 'Poleon studied her face intently then he inquired:

"W'at ail you, li'l sister?"

"Why—nothing."

"Oh, yes! I got eye lak fox. You seeck?"

"The idea!" Miss Kirby pulled herself together but there was such genuine concern in her companion's face that her chin quivered. She felt the need of saying something diverting, then abruptly she turned away. 'Poleon's big hand closed over hers; in a voice too low for any but her ears he said:

"Somet'ing is kill de song in your heart, ma petite. I give my life for mak you happy. Some tam you care for tell me, mebbe I can he'p li'l bit."

The girl suddenly bowed her head, her struggling tears overflowed reluc-

tantly; in a weary, heartsick murmur she confessed:

"I'm the most miserable girl in the world. I'm so—unhappy." Some instinct of delicacy prompted the woodman to refrain from speaking. In the same listless monotone Roulette continued: "I've always been a lucky gambler but—the cards have turned against me. I've been playing my own stakes and I've lost."

"You been playin' de bank?" he queried in some bewilderment.

"No, a gambler never plays his own game. He always bucks the other fellow's. I've been playing—hearts."

'Poleon's grasp upon her hand tightened. "I see," he said, "Wal, bad luck is boun' to change."

In Roulette's eyes, when she looked up, was a vision of some glory far beyond the woodman's sight. Her lips had parted, her tears had dried. "I wonder!" she breathed. "Father's luck always turned. 'Don't weaken; be a thoroughbred!' That's what he used to tell me. He'd be ashamed of me now, wouldn't he? I've told you my troubles, 'Poleon, because you're all I have left. Forgive me, please, big brother."

"Forgive? Mon Dieu!" said he.

Their midnight meal was set out; to them it was tasteless, and neither one made more than a silent pretence of eating it. They were absorbed in their own thoughts when the sound of high voices, a commotion of some sort at the front of the saloon, attracted their attention. Roulette's ears were the first to catch it; she turned, then uttered a breathless exclamation. The next instant she had slid down from her perch and was hurrying away. 'Poleon strode after her, he was at her back when she paused on the outskirts of a group which had assembled near the cashier's cage.

Pierce Phillips had left his post behind the scales; he, Count Courteau and Ben Miller, the proprietor, were arguing hotly. Rock, the Police Lieutenant, was listening to first one then another. The Count was deeply intoxicated, nevertheless he managed to carry himself with something of an air, and at the moment he was making himself heard with considerable vehemence.

"I have been drinking, to be sure," he acknowledged, "but am I drunk? No.

Damnation! There is the evidence." In his hand he was holding a small gold sack and this he shook defiantly under the officer's nose. "Do you call that eight hundred dollars? I ask you. Weigh it! Weigh it!"

Rock took the little leather bag in his fingers, then he agreed, "It's a lot short of eight hundred, for a fact, but——"

In a strong voice Phillips cried: "I don't know what he had. That's all there was in the sack when he paid his check."

The Count lurched forward, his face purple with indignation. "For shame!" he cried. "You thought I was blind. You thought I was like these other—cattle! But I know to a dollar——" He turned to the crowd. "Here! I will prove what I say. McCaskey, bear me out."

With a show of some reluctance, Frank, the younger and the smaller of the two brothers, nodded to the Police Lieutenant. "He's giving you the straight goods. He had eight hundred and something on him when he went up to the cage."

Rock eyed the speaker sharply. "How do you know?" said he.

"Joe and I was with him for the last hour and a-half. Ain't that right, Joe?" Joe verified this statement. "Understand, this ain't any of our doings? We don't want to mix up in it, but the Count had a thousand dollars, that much I'll swear to. He lost about a hundred and forty up the street, and he bought two rounds of drinks afterwards. I ain't quick at figures——"

Pierce uttered a threatening cry. He moved towards the speaker, but Rock laid a hand on his arm, and in a tone of authority exclaimed: "None of that, Phillips. I'll do all the fighting."

Ben Miller, who likewise had bestirred himself to forestall violence, now spoke up. "I'm not boosting for the house," said he, "but I want more proof than this kind of chatter. Pierce has been weighing here since last fall, and nobody ever saw him go south with a colour. If he split this poke, he must have the stuff on him. Let Rock search you, Pierce."

Phillips agreed readily enough to this suggestion, and assisted the officer's search of his pockets, a procedure which yielded nothing.

"Dat boy's no t'ief," 'Poleon whispered to Rouletta. "M'sieu' le Compte has been frisk' by somebody." The girl did not answer. She was intently watching the little drama before her.

During the search Miller forced his way out of the ring of spectators, unlocked the gate of the cashier's cage and passed inside. "We keep our takin's in one pile, and I'll lay a little eight to five that they'll balance up with the checks to a pennyweight," said he. "Just wait till I add up the figgers and weigh——" He paused, he stooped, then he rose with something he had picked up from the floor beneath his feet.

"What have you got, Ben?" It was Rock speaking.

"Dam' if I know! There is it." The proprietor shoved a clean, new moose-skin gold sack through the wicket.

Rock examined the bag, then he lifted an inquiring gaze to Pierce Phillips. There was a general craning of necks, a shifting of feet, a rustle of whispers.

"Ah!" mockingly exclaimed Courteau. "I was dreaming, eh? To be sure!" He laughed disagreeably.

"Is this 'house' money?" inquired the red coat.

Miller shook his head in some bewilderment. "We don't keep two kitties. I'll weigh it and see if it adds up with the Count's——"

"Oh, it will add up!" Phillips declared, his face even whiter than before. "It's a plant, so of course it will add up."

Defiantly he met the glances that were fixed upon him. As his eyes roved over the faces turned upon him he became conscious for the first time of 'Poleon's and Rouletta's presence, also that Laure had somehow appeared upon the scene. The latter was watching him with a peculiar expression of hostility frozen upon her features, her dark eyes were glowing, she was sneering faintly. Of all the bystanders perhaps the two McCaskey's seemed the least inclined to take part in the affair. Both brothers, in fact, appeared desirous of effacing themselves as effectively as possible.

But Courteau's indignation grew, and in a burst of excitement he disclaimed the guilt implied in Pierce's words. "So! You plead innocence! You imply that I robbed myself, eh? Well, how did I place the gold yonder? I ask you? Am

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Hott—62.

"I a magician?" He waved his arms wildly, then, in a tone of malevolence, he cried: "This is not the first time you have been accused of theft. I have heard that story about Sheep Camp."

"Sheep Camp, yes!" Phillips' eyes ignored the speaker, his gaze flew to Joe McCaskey's face, and to him he directed his next words: "The whole thing is plain enough to me. You tried something like this once before, Joe, and failed. I suppose your back is well enough now for the rest of those forty stripes. Well, you'll get 'em——"

The Count came promptly to the rescue of his friend. "Ho! Again you lay your guilt upon others. Those miners at Sheep Camp let you off easy. Well, a pretty woman can do much with a miners' meeting, but here there will be no devoted lady to the rescue—no skirt to hide behind, for——"

Courteau got no further. Ignoring Rock's previous admonition, Pierce knocked the fellow down with a swift, clean blow. He would have followed up his attack, only for the Lieutenant, who grappled with him.

"Here! Do you want me to put you in irons?"

Courteau raised himself with difficulty, he groped for the bar, and supported himself dizzily thereon, snarling from the pain. With his free hand he felt his cheek where Pierce's knuckles had found lodgment; then, as a fuller realisation of the indignity his privileged person had suffered came home to him, he burst into a torrent of frenzied abuse.

"Shut up," the officer growled unsympathetically. "I know as much about that trial at Sheep Camp as you do, and if Phillips hadn't floored you I would. That's how you stand with me. You, too!" he shot at the McCaskey's. "Let me warn you if this is a flame-up you'll all go on the wood-pile for the winter. D'you hear me? Of course, if you want to press this charge I'll make the arrest, but I'll just take you three fellows along, so you can do some swearing before the Colonel, where it'll go on the records."

"Arrest? But certainly!" screamed the Count. "The fellow is a thief, a pig. He struck me. *Me!* You saw him. I——"

"Sure! I saw him" the officer grinned. "I was afraid he'd miss you.

Stop yelling and come along." With a nod that included the McCaskeys as well as the titled speaker, he linked arms with Pierce Phillips and led the way out into the night.

"W'at fool biz'ness!" Doret indignantly exclaimed. "Dat boy is hones' as church."

He looked down at the sound of Rouletta's voice, then he started. The girl's face was strained and white and miserable; her hands were clasped over her bosom, she was staring horrified at the door through which Phillips had been taken. She swayed as if about to fall. 'Poleon, half-dragged, half-carried her out into the street; with his arm about her waist he helped her towards her hotel.

The walk was a silent one, for Rouletta was in a state bordering upon collapse; gradually she regained control of herself and stumbled along beside him.

"They're three to one," she said finally. "Oh, 'Poleon! They'll swear it on him. The police are strict, they'll give him five years. I heard the Colonel say so."

"Dere's been good deal of short weighin', but——" Doret shook his head. "Nobody goin' believe Courteau. And McCaskey is dam' t'ief."

"If—only I—could help him. You'll go to him, 'Poleon, won't you? Promise."

Silently the Canadian assented. They had reached the door of the hotel before he spoke again, then he said slowly, quietly: "You been playin' 'hearts' wit' him, ma soeur? You—you love him? Yes?"

"Oh—yes!" The confession came in a miserable gasp.

"Bien! I never s'pect biffore. Wal, dat's all right."

"The police are swift and merciless," Rouletta persisted fearfully. "They hate the Front Street crowd; they'd like to make an example."

"Go in you li'l bed an' sleep," he told her gently. "Dis t'ing is comin' out all right. 'Poleon fix it, sure; he's dandy fixer."

For some time after the door had closed upon Rouletta, the big fellow stood with bent head, staring at the snow beneath his feet. The cheer, the sympathy had left his face, the smile had vanished from his lips, his features were

set and stony. With an effort he shook himself then murmured, "Poor li'l bird! Wal, I s'pose now I got to bus' dat jail."

CHAPTER XXIX.

ALTHOUGH 'Poleon had spoken with confidence, he found, upon arriving at Police Headquarters, that the situation was by no means as simple as it had appeared, and that something more than a mere word regarding Phillip's character would be required to off-set the very definite accusation against him. Courteau, he learned, had pressed his charge with vigour, and, although the two McCaskeys had maintained their outward show of reluctance at being dragged into the affair they had, nevertheless, substantiated his statements with a thoroughness and a detail that hinted more than a little at vindictiveness. Pierce, of course, had denied his guilt, but his total inability to explain how the gold-dust in 'dispute came to be concealed in the cashier's cage to which no one but he had access had left the Police no alternative except to hold him. By the time 'Poleon arrived Pierce had been locked up for the night.

Drawing Rock aside, Doret put in an earnest plea for his young friend. The Lieutenant answered him with some impatience:

"I admit it looks fishy, but what is there to do? The Colonel likes Pierce, as we all do, but—he had no choice."

"It's a dirty frame-up."

"I imagine he believes so. And yet—how the deuce did that sack get where it was? I was standing alongside the McCaskeys when Courteau went up to pay his check and I'm sure they had no part in it."

"M'sieu' le Comte is sore," 'Poleon asserted. "Me, I savvy plenty. Wal, how we goin' get dat boy from out of jail, eh? By Gar! I bet I don't sleep none if I'm lock up."

"Get bail for him."

'Poleon was frankly puzzled at this suggestion, but when its nature had been explained his face lit up.

"Ho! Dat's nice arrangements, for sure. Come! I fix it now."

"Have you got enough money?"

"I got 'bout t'irty dollar, but dat ain't mak' no differ. I go to workin' some-where. Me, I'm good for anyt'ing."

"That won't do," Rock smiled. "You don't understand." Laboriously he made more plain the mysteries of court procedure, whereupon his hearer expressed the frankest astonishment.

"*Sacre!*" the latter exclaimed. "W'at for you say two, t'ree t'ousan' dollar? Courteau ain't lose but six hondred an' he's got it back. No! I'm t'inkin' you Policemens is got good sense, but I lak better a miners' meetin'. Us 'sour-dough' mak' better law as dem feller at Ottawa."

"Morris Best was willing to go his bail," Rock informed him, "but Miller wouldn't allow it. Ben is sore to have the Rialto implicated. There's been so much short weighing going on. Understand?"

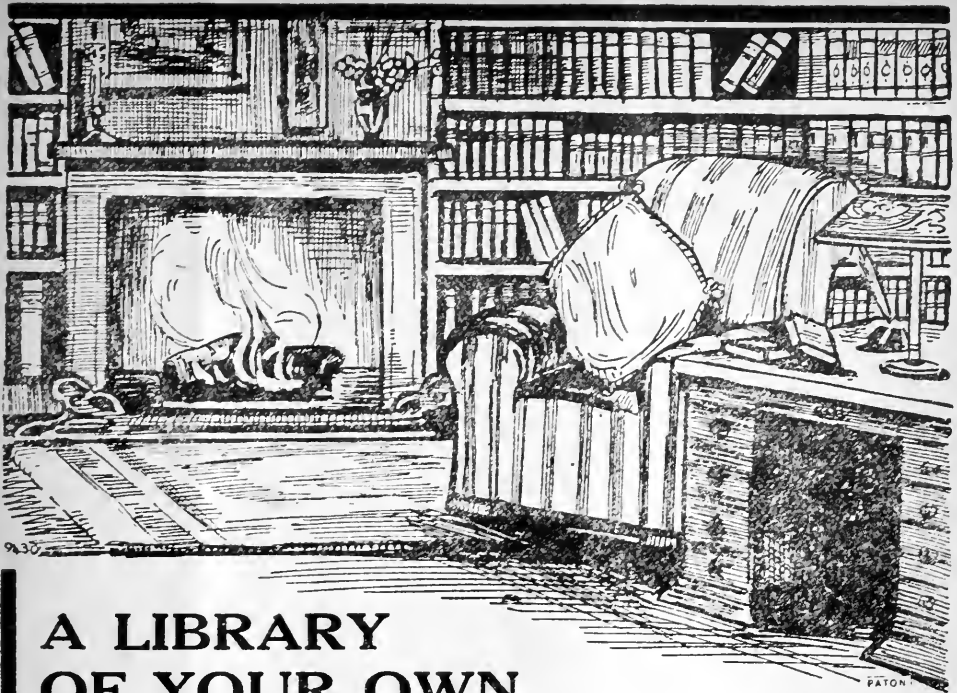
'Poleon wagged his head in bewilderment. "I don't savvy dis new kin' of law you feller' is bring in de country. S'pose I say, 'M'sieu' Jodge, I know dis boy long tam: he don't steal dat gold.' De Jodge he say, 'Doret, how much money you got? T'ousan' dollar?' I say, 'Sure! I got 'bout t'ousan' dollar.' Den he tell me, 'Wal, dat ain't 'nough. Mebbe so you better gimme two t'ousan' dollar biffere I b'lieve you.' *Bien!* I go down-town an' win 'noder t'ousan' on de high card, or mebbe so I stick up some feller; den I come back and M'sieu' le Jodge he say: 'Dat's fine! Now we let Phillips go home. He don't steal not'in'.' W'at I t'ink of dem procedin's? Eh? I t'ink de Jodge is dam' grafter!"

Rock laughed heartily. "Don't let Colonel Cavendish hear you," he cautioned. "Seriously now, he'd let Pierce go if he could; he told me so. He'll undoubtedly allow him the freedom of the Barracks, so he'll really be on parole until his trial."

"Trial? You goin' try him again?" The woodsman could make little of the affair. "If you try him two tam dose crook is mak' t'ief of Pierce for sure. One trial is plenty. I s'pose mebbe I better kill dem feller off an' settle dis t'ing."

"Don't talk like that," Rock told him. "I'm not saying they don't need killing but—nobody gets away with that stuff nowadays."

"No?" 'Poleon was interested and a trifle defiant. "For why? You never catch me, M'sieu'. Nobody is able for doin' dat. I'm good traveller."



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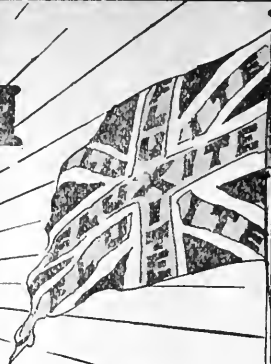
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Rock eyed the stalwart speaker meditatively. "I'd hate to take your trail, that's a fact, but I'd have to do it. However, that would be a poor way to help Pierce. If he's really innocent, Courteau

will have a hard job to convict him. I suggest that you let matters rest as they are for a day or so. We'll treat the kid all right."

(To be continued in our next number—
September 21, 1918.)

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS QUARTER.

The needs of the United States for coinage during the current year are estimated at 21,250,000 ounces of silver.

During May last 112 new companies were organised for the development of oil and gas resources in the United States and the distribution of oil products. In April 145 new firms were formed, the new capital invested during the two months, April-May, amounting to over 100,000,000 dollars.

There are now 25,000 fewer people employed in British post office work than in pre-war days. To France alone the weekly mail amounts to about 10,000,000 letters and 350,000 parcels, but at the last Christmas season the numbers rose to 20,000,000 and 4,000,000 respectively. War bonuses to the post office staff have cost about £6,000,000.

The Canadian Government, as the result of changes made in the taxes on various commodities expected to receive over 9,000,000 dollars in increased revenue. Anticipated increases were as follow:—Tobacco, 2,173,000 dollars; cigars, 719,456 dollars; cigarettes, 3,921,813 dollars; foreign leaf tobacco, 2,096,450 dollars; Canadian leaf tobacco, 224,750 dollars. The increased revenue from tea was estimated at 3,200,000 dollars, and from moving picture films at 300,000 dollars. The sleeping-car berth tax was expected to yield 130,000 dollars; tax on matches 3,000,000 dollars, and on jewellery 200,000 dollars.

An "emergency war measure," introduced into the United States Legislature by Senator Pittman, provided for the melting into bullion of 250,000,000 silver dollars held by the Treasury, and the sale or export of the bullion to pay trade balances and provide for repurchases of silver at 1 dollar per ounce. The Bill was amended so that the amount to be

melted should be 350,000,000 dollars of a silver content of 270,000,000 ounces fine. One object of the bill was to stimulate production of the white metal, and to utilise the Treasury's reserve stocks of silver, instead of gold, to settle the country's trade balance in the Orient and elsewhere.

Further and fuller announcements have appeared in the daily press with reference to the amalgamation of the "National" and "Colonial" banks, and should the proposals be ratified by shareholders—and there is no reason to suppose they will not be—a particularly strong financial institution, under the name of the National Bank of Australasia Ltd., will emerge; the title of the larger of the two merging banks, having been retained. When all formalities have been completed, the joint paid-up capital will comprise 62,000 fully paid £10 preference shares, and 276,000 ordinary shares of £8 each, paid up to £5 each. This total entails the issue of 238 fully paid preference shares, and 10,464 ordinary shares of £8, paid to £5, the latter to be offered at par to existing holders of ordinary shares. The nominal capital of the combined institution will be £5,000,000, made up of 150,000 preference shares of £10 each, of which 88,000 will be still unissued, and 437,500 ordinary shares of £8 each, of which 161,500 will be held in reserve. The paid-up capital of the reconstructed bank will be £2,000,000, and in addition to that sum the reserve funds will amount to £1,000,000 apart from any surplus profits of the current six months.

Two directors of the Colonial Bank (Messrs. Bowes Kelly and F. G. Clarke, M.L.C.) will join the board of the amalgamated bank, the other "Colonial" directors who will retire (Messrs. J. J. Smart, J. Moloney and A. D. Murphy) receiving payment of £2000 as compen-

sation for loss of office. Arrangements have also been made for the due protection of the interests of the members of the permanent staffs of the two banks. Since the first announcement that negotiations were proceeding between the two banks mentioned above, rumours have been current in the city regarding other amalgamations. So insistent did some of these become that on August 7th the chairman of directors of the Bank of Victoria Ltd. felt it incumbent upon him to notify shareholders of that bank that "so far their bank had neither made nor received from any other institution any proposals in regard to amalgamation." Banking amalgamations appear to be popular throughout the world at the present time, however, and, in view of all the circumstances, it would not be surprising if further developments of a like nature had to be recorded in connection with banking mergers in Australia in the near future.

With the approval of the British Government, terms have been arranged for the amalgamation of British Dyes Ltd. and Levinstein Ltd. This step has been rendered particularly desirable at the present time owing to the serious shortage of materials for plant extensions, so that the complete co-operation between the dye-making interests is of vital importance in order to make the fullest use of existing resources, and place the dye-making industry as rapidly as possible on a secure foundation. Terms have been virtually agreed as to the basis on which the assets to be taken over shall be valued, and goodwill is to be paid for in deferred shares, of which 55 per cent. will go to British dyes, and 45 per cent. to Levinstein. It is considered that the combine will be powerful enough to place the industry in a position of independence as regards foreign competition by the time this is likely to develop into a formidable factor.

ESPERANTO NOTES.

The annual concert of the Melbourne Esperanto Society was held on Wednesday evening, August 7th, before a large audience of members and visitors. The greater part of the programme was in Esperanto, and it included drama, and vocal and instrumental music and recitation. The evening opened with the stirring chorus, *La Espero*, to de Menil's music, sung by the Esperantists present. A recitation from *Julio Cezaro*, Act I., Scene 2, being Cassius's appeal to the ambition of Brutus, was given with striking effect; the rounded syllables of Esperanto are well suited to reproduce the Shakespearian phrases.

The principal item was a little drama entitled, *La Akvoj de l' Forgeso* (The Waters of Oblivion) originally written in Esperanto by "Ezoko," and played by members of the Society.

Public library authorities are beginning to realise that Esperanto literature is worthy of a place on their shelves. The management of the Sydney Municipal Library, in the Queen Victoria Markets building, has recently added several Esperanto books to its stock, selecting them from a list obtained from the Sydney Esperanto Society. The public library of Melbourne has also, both in the reference and the lending

sections, a small selection of Esperanto literature.

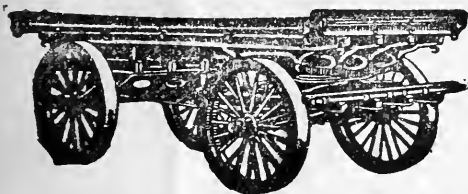
The list of commercial firms who are known to use Esperanto in their business is a large one, and it is always growing. A recent issue of a Swiss Esperanto journal reports that three firms at Zurich in Switzerland—a firm dealing in food-stuffs, an agency, and an import and export company—and a firm of tailors in Geneva are making use of Esperanto in their businesses, finding it easier to use one simple language than several difficult ones. Besides the firms known to use Esperanto, there are undoubtedly many others who conduct transactions in Esperanto from time to time as necessity arises.

Readers of STEAD'S REVIEW interested in Esperanto should communicate with the nearest Esperanto group, at any of these addresses:—Box 731, Elizabeth Street P.O., Melbourne; 223 Stanmore Road, Stanmore, Sydney; Mr. W. L. Waterman, Torrens Road, Kilkenny, Adelaide; Mr. C. Kidd, O'Mara Street, Lutwyche, Brisbane; Mr. T. Burt, Stott's College, Perth; Mr. D. Guilbert, 7 Glen Street, Hobart; and Mr. W. L. Edmanson, 156 Lambton Quay, Wellington, N.Z.

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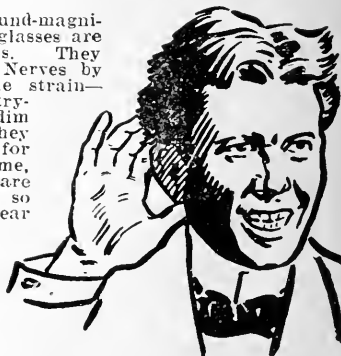
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The price is £1 1s. Write for free booklet, or use order form below.

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IN the selection of footwear consideration should be given to the quality of the leather, linings, stitchings and workmanship, for with this combination of good qualities footwear satisfaction is assured. Anthony Horderns' footwear is renowned for its excellence. Here are examples of the unequalled value obtainable at the New Palace Emporium.

Glance Kid Derby Balmorals (as illustration No. 1), good fitting last, neat shapes, made from best selected leather, welted soles **18/9, 22/6, 25/-, 27/6**

Tan Willow Calf Balmorals (as illustration No. 2), solid leather soles and heels, good round toe, welted soles **22/6, 26/6, 29/6**

Box Calf Derby Balmorals, medium toes, welted soles, easy fitting **22/6**

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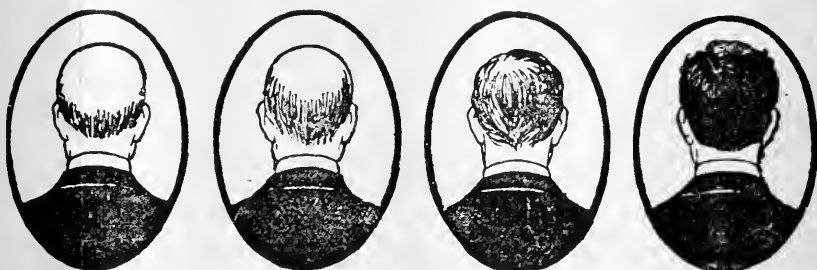
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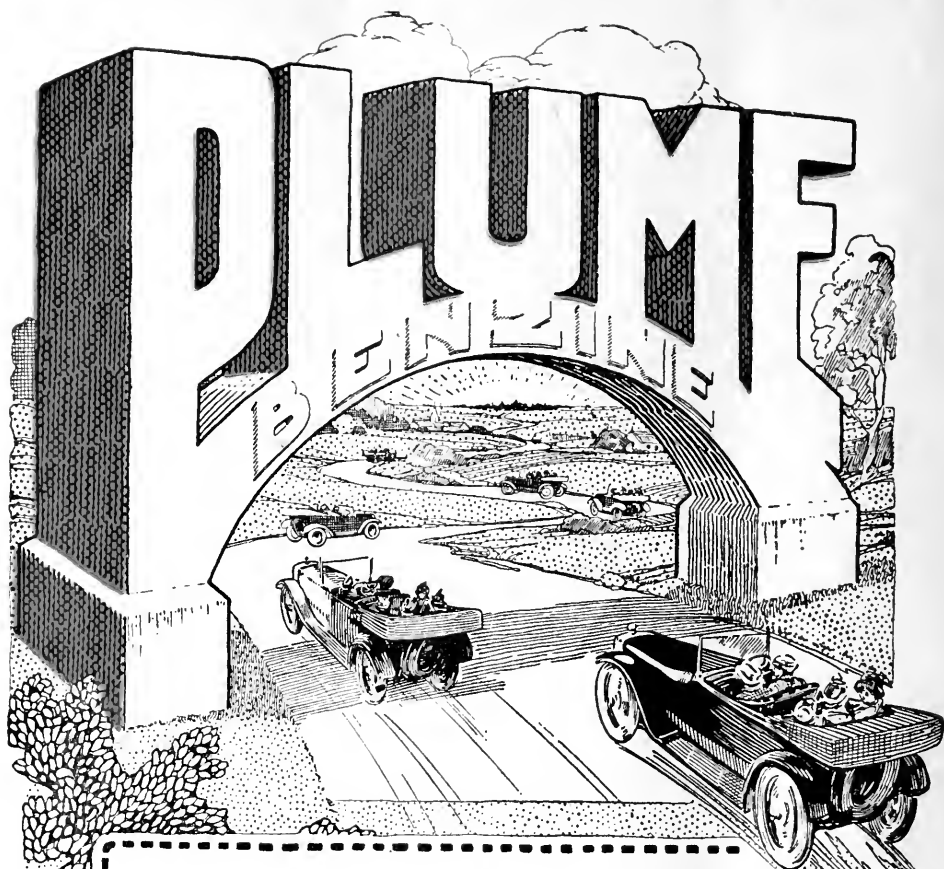
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